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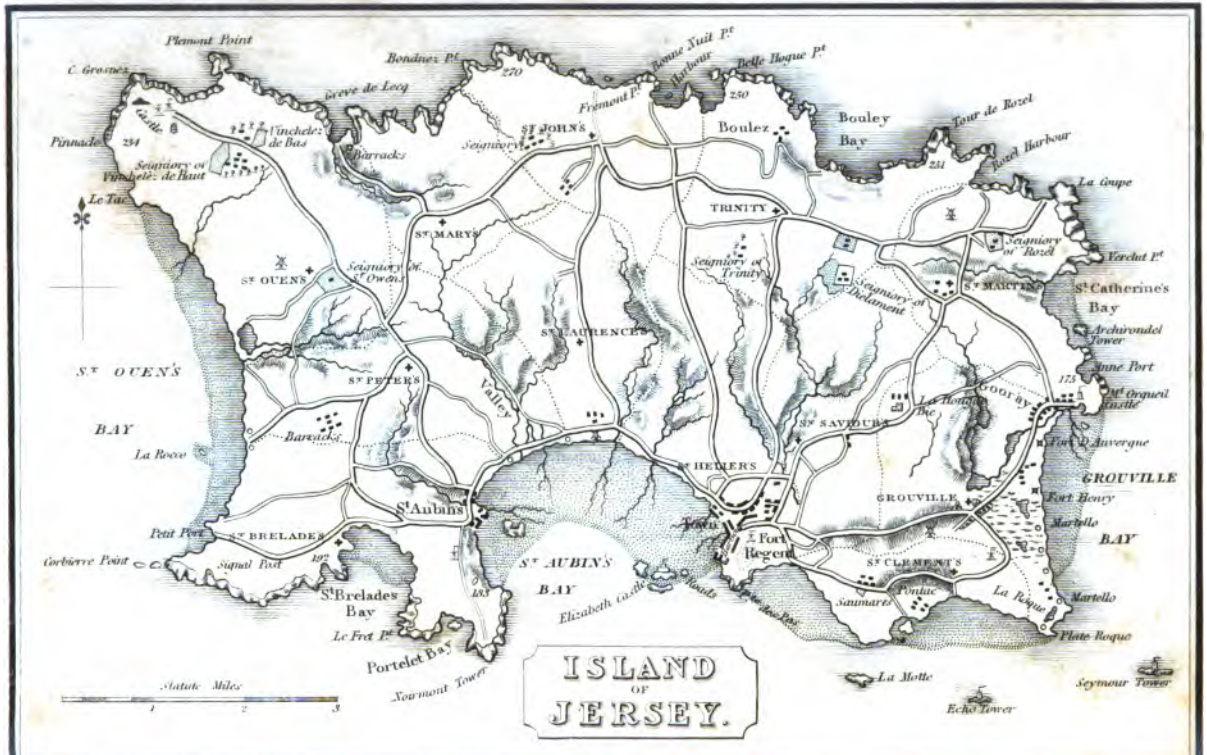
THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.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Vinchelez de Bas
Barracks
Seigniory of Vinchelez de Haut
St JOHN'S
Seigniory
Boulez
Bouley Bay
Tour de Rozel
Rozel Harbour
La Coupe
Le Tas
TRINITY
Seigniory of Rozel
Verclut Pt
St MARY'S
St OUENS
Seigniory of St Owens
Seigniory of Trinity
Seigniory of Deslament
St MARTIN'S
St Catherine's Bay
Archirondel Tower
St LAURENCE'S
St OUEN'S BAY
St PETER'S
Valley
Anne Port
Mt Orgueil Castle
Goorey
La Rocco
Barracks
St SAVIOUR'S
Fort D'Auvergne
St HELIER'S
GROUVILLE
St Aubins
GROUVILLE
Fort Henry
Martello
Petit Port
St BRELADES
Fort Regent
BAY
Corbière Point
Signal Post
St CLEMENTS
St AUBIN'S BAY
Elizabeth castle
Samares
Pontac
La Roque
Martello
St Brelades Bay
Le Frêt Pt
Portelet Bay
Plate Roque
Statute Miles
Noirmont Tower
La Motte
Seymour Tower
Echo Tower
ISLAND OF JERSEY.

THE

CHANNEL ISLANDS;

JERSEY, GUERNSEY, ALDERNEY, &c.

[THE RESULT OF A TWO YEAR'S RESIDENCE.]

BY

HENRY D. INGLIS,

AUTHOR OF "SPAIN IN 1830," "THE TYROL," &c

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THE

CHANNEL ISLANDS, &c.

CHAPTER I.

The Channel Islands little known in England; and their claims to be known: approach to Jersey; coast scenery; first impressions; St. Helier's and its environs; causes of prosperity; the Market Place, and its attractions; the Square, and its coteries and loungers; streets and shops; Churches; Fort Regent; charming views.

It cannot I think, be doubted, that less is known in England of the Channel Islands, than of any other colony or dependency of the British crown, of equal size and importance. The Channel Islands have a population exceeding sixty-five thousand, and Jersey alone has a shipping, reaching twenty-one thousand tons. And

yet, I will venture to assert, that more is actually known, and more accurate information is to be gathered from authentic sources, respecting the smallest of the colonies which lie in the Atlantic or Indian oceans, than respecting Jersey or Guernsey.

And this is the more extraordinary, when we consider, that there are certain points of interest attached to the Channel Islands, peculiarly their own; and which essentially distinguish them from the other colonies and dependencies of Great Britain. Among these may be enumerated, their connexion with the Norman Conquest and long dependence upon the British crown; their separate and independent constitution,—and the peculiar laws by which they are governed; their singular privileges; their native civilized inhabitants; their vicinity to the coast of France; and the general use of the French language.

Let me not be supposed to speak disparagingly, of the works which have already been written, respecting these Islands. In these works, the history and political constitution of Jersey and Guernsey have been well elucidated: but we

cannot refer to their pages, for information respecting their present condition,—as little, for those sketches of their moral and natural aspect, which in these days, usually result from the observations of an intelligent traveller. Something therefore seemed to be wanting: and with the view (among others) of attempting to supply the deficiency, I left England in the end of April 1832, with the intention of residing a year or two in the Channel Islands.

The features of the scene, as the traveller approaches Jersey, vary with the state of the tide. Enormous ridges, and extensive beds of rock, lie along the whole of the southern coast of the Island; and the rise of the tide being no less than forty-five feet, the shore at low water, to one approaching from England, presents a most rugged, and uninviting aspect. It was my good fortune however, to arrive at high water; and I believe no one in such circumstances, can sail round Noirmont point, and stretch across the mouth of St. Aubin's bay towards the harbour of St. Helier's, without the most lively admiration of the scene. There is indeed, all that constitutes

the beautiful and the picturesque: there is the noble brim-full bay, stretching in a fine curve of many miles; its sloping shores charmingly diversified with wood, and cultivated fields, and thickly dotted with villas and cottages: there is, on the left, close to the vessel as she sails by, the grey, and imposing fortress, called Elizabeth Castle, built on a huge sea-girt rock,—while in front, is seen the town, commanded by its lofty stronghold,—and backed by a fine range of wooded and cultivated heights.

Little is seen of the town, in entering the harbour, or in making one's way to any of the hotels; and that little, is the worst part of it. At Jersey, as at other ports, whether of England or of foreign countries, the traveller is annoyed by the importunities of porters; but there is one annoyance from which he is free,—he may take his carpet bag in his hand if he please, without asking leave of a custom-house officer; and he may have the satisfaction of seeing his trunks carried before him to the hotel, without the tedious delays incident to revenue regulations. This puts one in too good a humour to find fault with porters.

Of the town of St. Helier's, and its neighbourhood, I should say, that first impressions are favourable. These do not arise from the excellence of streets,—the beauty of public edifices,—or the splendor of private houses: they have a higher source,—and arise from those indications of general prosperity, which are everywhere visible. It is true indeed, that general distress cannot exist in any great degree in England, without in some degree, affecting the prosperity of these Islands, whose exports are chiefly to the British and British Colonial markets. But it is not difficult to distinguish between those effects which result from permanent, and from temporary causes: and although, during the last two or three years, the same causes which have affected the prosperity of England, have made themselves to be felt in Jersey, more especially that pestilence which desolated wherever it appeared, —I would nevertheless venture to say, that a stranger cannot perambulate the streets and neighbourhood of St. Helier's, without remarking the unerring signs of prosperity. He will everywhere perceive the hand of improvement; he

will see public works in progress; he will see shops and houses tenanted; he will see neither beggars nor rags; and will recognize in the general aspect of the population, that look of independence and aisance, which can exist only in those favoured spots which pauperism has not reached.

Nor are these favourable impressions to be gathered only in the town of St. Helier's. They will be strengthened tenfold by a walk in the environs. The town, I have said, lies fronting the sea, and is backed by a range of heights: but betwixt these heights and the town, there is a level, varying from a quarter of a mile, to a mile and a half in breadth. This level forms a semi-circular suburb, the arch of which is not less than three miles; and the whole of this space is occupied by villas and cottage residences, with their gardens and orchards,—the property chiefly of the native inhabitants of Jersey; and occupied, either by themselves, or by the English residents to whom they are let. These residences are not confined to the level ground: they encroach upon the heights also,—adorning the slopes, and

crowning the eminences; and the general neatness of the exterior of these villas, with the substantial garden walls, the luxuriant foliage, and frequent vineries, strongly confirm the impressions which have been awakened in walking through the town.

Let it be recollected too, that some chief causes of the prosperity of this Island, are independent of the dicta of fashion. The caprice of a monarch may elevate or depress Brighton, according as the whim of a season carries him there, or keeps him away; and the prosperity of a Cheltenham or a Bath, is at all times subject to fashion, the laws of which, are so capricious as to be inscrutable. But Jersey possesses those solid advantages both to its native inhabitants and to residents, which prove an overmatch for the caprices of fashion. These advantages will be enumerated by and bye.

The general aspect of St. Helier's and its environs, is altogether un-English. A regular and extensive fortress overlooking an English town, is nowhere to be seen; and to any one who has travelled in Switzerland, and who walks in the

environs of St. Helier's, recollections of Swiss towns cannot fail to be awakened. Baden, Basle, Berne, Zurich,—around which, houses, gardens parterres, orchards, meadows, groves, and rocks are so charmingly intermingled, are instantly recalled; and in the glimpses which are occasionally caught of the bay, the resemblance is heightened by the alchemy of imagination, which easily pictures the lake of Geneva, Zurich, or Lucern.

Of the town itself, I should say, that in point of externals, it is much upon a level with English country towns of the same size; the streets are perhaps upon the whole somewhat narrower; and there is a greater paucity of public edifices: but like them, it has its better and its worse quarters; its rows of modern houses, and its old filthy alleys; its churches and its chapel; its square, and its market place. But the two latter deserve more particular mention.

Let every one who visits St. Helier's, hie him to the market place on a Saturday morning. There, one may judge not only of the produce of the Island, but of its population. I have seldom seen in any market—save and except Thoulouse,

which I look upon as the ne plus ultra for garden produce—a finer display of vegetables, fruits, and flowers, than in the market of St. Helier's. It is a very general custom for the heads of families to make their own markets; and therefore a pretty fair sample of the resident population may be always seen there in fine weather. Nor is market-going in St. Helier's altogether matter of business; it is true that at the earlier hours, both ladies and gentlemen may be seen intent on supplying the larder; and it startles one at first, to see gentlemen walking about with an armfull of cauliflowers or artichokes,—or with a couple of mullet or mackrel, dangling from a string passed through the gills: but somewhat later in the day, the market changes its character and becomes a promenade; there are abundance of nodding feathers and smart ribbons to be seen; and talk and gossip, succeed to enquiry and cheapening. I shall speak afterwards, of the quality and prices of provisions; at present, I shall merely say, that to a stranger, the display of edibles, is very satisfactory. It must be admitted however, that the market place is not

sufficiently roomy; and, that in order to gratify oneself with the display of country produce, and the faces of the country girls who bring their butter and eggs to market, one must submit to be elbowed and jostled more than is altogether agreeable. By and bye I shall speak more in detail, of the market place and its contents.

The Square, or Royal Square, as it is called, deserves a page to itself. In Spain, the square would be an Alameda; but in Jersey, it is the resort only of the male lounger. Here, at most hours of the day, may be seen, groups of threes and fours, posted here and there, discussing Island politics; others, single, or in pairs, are seen strolling leisurely to and fro, perfect examples of the "far'niente:" others again, in twos and threes, more intent on health and exercise, than conversation, may be observed for hours together, walking from end to end, at the top of their walking speed; while a few gossips are seen seated on benches at the door of an eminent pastry-cook's shop, whiling away the too tedious hours. But this is not all. The Court House is in this square; and before and after its sittings,

a promiscuous crowd, composed of clients, lawyers, judges, and lookers-on, is congregated about the door, intent upon what is about to be, —or busily occupied with that which has been; for I have nowhere so much as in Jersey, seen individual causes, and private disputes, occupy public attention. In this same square too, are all the booksellers shops, and the reading rooms, and newspaper offices: the town church too, stands close by; it boasts also, one of the principal hotels; and as all the chief thoroughfares of the town communicate with it, the reader may easily guess what sort of a place is the Royal Square of Jersey. I ought to mention, that this square is not what in England is understood by a square: it is an open space flagged with smooth stones, and resembles rather a French "place," or a Spanish "paseo," than an English square.

In walking through the streets of St. Helier's, one is not struck either by the meanness or the magnificence of shops, or of houses. The former are in general greatly superior to those which are seen in a small continental town,—but much

upon a par with those we find in a flourishing English country town. There is perhaps less window display,—which is often the symbol of poverty within; but many of the shops in Jersey are extensive establishments, and contain large and varied stocks of the goods in which they deal. As for the houses in the older and central parts of the town, they are chiefly the residences of the shopkeepers. The houses of those who are unconnected with trade, and of many of the most opulent merchants also, are to be found in the outskirts, and in those newer streets which form the outlets, where also, the English residents principally reside. Some of these streets are pretty,—regular, and well built, and have open space, and ornamented garden ground in front of them. Two of these streets, the Terrace, and the Crescent, are inhabited chiefly by the English; and the latter of these, is considerably improved in its appearance by the theatre, which forms the centre of the arch, and whose pretty Greek portico is an agreeable relief to the plainness of the buildings that flank it.

It is fortunate for the traveller, that Jersey

possesses other attractions than those offered by its public buildings; for these are devoid of either beauty or interest: indeed, with the exception of the old church, two of the chapels, the theatre and the jail, there are none deserving the name: and of these, one of the chapels, and the portico of the theatre, have alone any claim to architectural design. For my own part, I am no admirer of little white gothic churches set down in the outskirts of towns. This has been long a prevailing fashion in England; but it seems to me, that the gothic stile needs something more than pointed arches, and a pinnacled tower, to make it acceptable. Our first knowledge of these relics of other days, was obtained either from those fabrics which addressed themselves to the imagination, by their gigantic proportions; and which excited wonder by the perfection of their workmanship,—or from those smaller remains, which, with equal perfection of workmanship, showed us how much the interest of a building is enhanced by beauty of situation. But these modern gothic churches have none of those attributes which are naturally associated in our minds with gothic

architecture,—neither size, nor elaborate sculpture, nor situation.

As for the parish church of St. Helier, it is old and grey, and venerable enough,—built, so far back, they say, as 1341 : and will attract little beyond a passing glance from the traveller. Inside however, there is a monument connected with Jersey history,—a tablet to the memory of Major Pierson, who was killed in action when the French attacked the island in 1781. All the other chapels are plain barn-like edifices, no way ornamental to the town ; and by the bye, it is certainly to be lamented, that since the expense of erecting a building upon a correct architectural design is not necessarily greater than that of raising a shapeless pile ; and since the word of God is not less efficacious, preached in a Greek temple than in a barn, absurd puritanism should have covered England and her colonies, with deformity.

One of the objects that chiefly attracts the notice of a traveller, is the extensive fortification,—Fort Regent,—which, from almost every part of the town and its neighbourhood, is seen over-

topping the buildings. I was extremely pleased by my first walk to Fort Regent; for the view from the road, as it ascends the hill, lays open one of the most striking views which it has been my good fortune to see. The magnificent bay of St. Aubin, about four miles across its mouth, and at least two in depth, is seen stretching in a fine curve, to the opposite village which gives to it its name, and which is seen half hid among the wooded heights among which it lies. It was a calm and beautiful May day; the sea all the way across the bay, had scarcely a ripple on it; it was high tide too; and several small vessels were trying ineffectually, to catch air enough to waft them in and out of the harbour. I was strikingly reminded of the view from Gibraltar, looking across the bay towards the little town of Algesiras; only I missed the perfume of the geranium and the acacia, and the jabbering of the monkeys among the rocks.

But Fort Regent, in which, one sees, nearly a million of the national debt, deserves a more particular notice. The foundation of this fortress was laid in 1806; and although I have not

been able to obtain access to the documents setting forth the precise expenditure, I have good access to know, that from first to last, this erection has cost the British nation not less than £800,000 sterling.

I have no intention of describing the fortress. Although the form of the rock upon which it is constructed, has necessarily made it an irregular fortress, it is nevertheless constructed on the best principles. It possesses all the usual defences. It has its bastions, and half bastions, and outworks, and glacis,—and excepting on the side which faces the sea, a ditch, with a counterscarp, and covertway, is carried all round. The whole of the magazines and barracks are in the bastions, and under the ramparts, and are bomb proof. The powder magazines are capable of containing five thousand barrels.

This extensive, and expensive fortress, (the utility of which is altogether questionable) affords accommodation for only thirty-one officers, and four hundred and forty-eight non-commissioned officers and privates, a number, utterly inadequate to its defence against a regular siege.

There is no doubt that in such an event, the fortress would be made to contain a greater number than there is accommodation for; but crowding men in the bomb proofs, would engender disease; part of the barracks would be necessary for the purposes of an hospital; room would also be required for the spare materiel of a siege; workshops for artificers; store-rooms for provisions, &c.; and besides, the casemates under the bastions, which could alone be converted to these purposes, would require to be kept clear of all that might impede the working of the guns which enfilade the bottom of the ditches.

Fort Regent is commanded by two eminences, which although at least a thousand yards distant, are sufficiently near to have been considered dangerous by the engineer; for traverses have been raised on the bastions, and across the curtains, with the view apparently, of counteracting the effects of an enemy's fire. The fortress is abundantly supplied with excellent water, from a well two hundred and thirty-four feet deep, and ten feet in diameter, bored through the solid rock.

It is doubtful, whether all this labour, and all

this money, has not been after all, injudiciously expended; and whether Fort Regent be in reality, any compensation to England, for the 30, or £40,000 per annum with which it has saddled her: and it is also the opinion of many, that if a fortress of this nature were to have been erected, it would have been placed more advantageously at Noirmont point, on the opposite side of the bay. It is evident, that in case of a descent upon Jersey by a force superior to any that could be opposed to it, the only use of a stronghold is, to afford the means of succour from England. This is no better secured by erecting the citadel close to the town, than if it had been raised on the other side of the bay,—and in case of a siege, it involves the destruction of the town, not only by an enemy, but by its defenders also; since in such an event, it would be necessary to clear away all that part of the town which lies under the fort, as opportunities would otherwise be afforded for making lodgments, and for undermining.

This new and expensive defence of the Island of Jersey, reduces to insignificance, the ancient,

and more picturesque fortress called Elizabeth Castle, which I have already mentioned as so striking an object in approaching the Island. Striking however, as this castle is, seen whether from sea, or from shore, and interesting as it is from some historical details connected with it, I was some time in Jersey before I visited it, the access to it, being by no means inviting. It is not more than three quarters of a mile, from the pier of St. Helier's, to Elizabeth Castle; but in order to reach it on foot, or on horseback, at low water, one must make a long circuit, and traverse a natural causeway little less than a mile long, which the confluence of the tides has formed between the castle and the shore. The whole of the sands indeed, on each side of the causeway are left by the ebbing tide; but being too wet and soft to be passable, one is obliged to keep on the rough narrow elevation. The situation of Elizabeth Castle will be tolerably well seen and understood from the map.

Before visiting Elizabeth Castle, one has no idea of its extent. The rock however, on which it stands, is not less than a mile in circumference,

and I was surprised on passing through the gateway, to find a wide grassy level, terminated by extensive barracks and their appurtenances. As may easily be believed, the views from the higher parts of the castle over the bay, and embracing the town, and Fort Regent, are equally striking and beautiful.

In war time, this fortress was an important place, and no doubt presented to the eyes and the ears of the traveller, a very different aspect from that which it now presents. Decay seems now to be creeping over it; and although a solitary sentinel is still to be seen, pacing to and fro; and although pyramids of shot, still occupy their accustomed places, grass and weeds have forced their way through their interstices; and the rows of dismounted cannon show that the stirring days of war have gone by. May the weeds long grow, and the rust continue to creep over the engines of death.

But Elizabeth Castle has its story, which I must not altogether pass over. It was first thought of in the year 1551, to raise a fortress on this rock; and a few years afterwards, (so the

legend tells) the bells of the churches and other sacred things, were taken, to be converted into funds; and being sent for sale to St. Malo, the ship was of course lost as a judgment upon this sacrilegious act. This delayed the erection of the fortress, which however was begun during the reign of Elizabeth, and was honoured by her name. Many additions were made to this fortress in the reign of Charles the First, and it was not till the year 1665, that the fortifications were completed. I am not good at describing fortifications, and shall therefore not attempt any description of this. I will merely add, that it is an irregular fortification, and has shown itself capable of making a vigorous defence, as was proved in the year 1651, when it was besieged by the parliamentary forces; and it is said to have been the last of the king's fortresses which owned his authority. When in Charles's reign, the young prince took refuge in Jersey, he was accompanied by Sir Edward Hyde, afterwards, the great lord Clarendon, who, it is certain, resided for two years in Elizabeth Castle, and there wrote a part of his celebrated history.

I must not omit to mention, that on the summit of a rock situated a little to the south of Elizabeth Castle, and like it, accessible at low water, may still be seen, the rude remains of a hermitage, which was once the retreat of a holy man from whose canonized name, the town of St. Helier is said to have derived its own. Elizabeth Castle is not usually visited by the stranger. It is not included in any of the "tours of the island," which the guide books recommend him to take; but both for its own sake, and for the sake of the views to be enjoyed from it, a visit certainly repays the trouble of making it.

Strangers arriving in Jersey, and anxious to see what sort of people they have come among, generally enquire, where the inhabitants walk? where is the promenade? but in truth, the inhabitants scarcely do walk, and there is no promenade; and unless it be at church, I really do not know where the inhabitants of Jersey are to be seen. They talk of constructing a promenade; but I really do not think the inhabitants deserve it. Both to the west and to the east of the town, there is a long stretch of fine hard sand, at all

times fit for a promenade, unless at full spring tides, and yet, one may go there at any hour of the day, without seeing a single individual profiting by the advantages offered by nature. Why then put art in requisition, to create a luxury which will certainly be unappreciated by the inhabitants. Jersey is not sufficiently continental in its tastes, to relish a public promenade; and yet one would think, this is a taste which it would not be difficult to acquire; for it includes in it, the desire of seeing, and of being seen: and certainly it is felt to be a great convenience to the traveller on almost every part of the continent, who desires to learn something of the general aspect of the population of a town, to have only to ask the road to the public walk; be it, boulevard, prater, or prado.

I should say of the street population of St. Helier's generally, that it offers little that is different from any English town—especially a sea port. There is certainly no difference in the dress and appearance of the upper classes, unless it be, that among gentlemen, jackets are as much in use as long tailed coats—a taste which is observable in the English sea ports,—and that but

moderate attention is bestowed upon the neatness of apparel. Among the lower orders, the enormous flap eared pyramidal cap, worn by the Norman women, is frequently seen; and there is indeed a French air, and an admixture of French dress among the women of the inferior ranks. The trade between Jersey, and the nearest villages of the French coast being constant, especially during the fruit and game season, rows of Norman peasant women may then be seen seated outside of the market place with their capons, partridges, hares, woodcocks, &c.

There is one thing however, that is very striking, in the aspect of the street population of Jersey,—the extraordinary contrast exhibited between business and idleness. The English residents form a large proportion of the inhabitants; and the English residents have nothing to do. There is therefore the constant contrast between that portion of the population whose object, and I may even say, whose difficulty is, to get quit of time,—and that other portion, the native inhabitants namely, whose object is, to make the most it. The former, is certainly the more difficult, and the more laborious task.

CHAPTER II.

General aspect of Jersey; valleys, and streams; ivy; view over the island; character of the valleys; dells, orchards, cattle; the new roads, and the old lanes; military objections to the new roads.

The general aspect of Jersey, is wooded fertility, —and the general character of its scenery, is beauty. The scenery, even upon the coast, nowhere rises into the sublime; and although some of its valleys and coves, exhibit glimpses of the picturesque, beauty and softness are the prevailing features. One would scarcely expect to find, in an island hardly forty miles in circumference, any great diversity of scenery, or variety of surface, —upon which indeed, the former is dependent: but Jersey is everywhere undulating, broken into hollows and acclivities, and intersected by numerous valleys, generally running north and south; most of them watered by a rivulet, and as rife in

beauty, as wood, pasturage, orchard, a tinkling stream, and glimpses of the sea can make them. There is one picturesque feature, which enters into every view in Jersey; it is, that the trunks of the trees, are, I may say without exception, entirely covered with ivy; which not only adds to the beauty of the scenery when the trees are in leaf; but which greatly softens the sterility of a winter prospect, and gives a certain greenness to the landscape throughout the year. Nor is the luxuriant growth of the ivy in Jersey confined to the trees; it covers the banks by the way side; creeps over the walls; and even climbs upon the rocks by the sea shore. About two miles to the east of St. Helier's, there are several elevated rocks, the bases of which, are washed at high water, and which, higher up, are entirely overgrown with ivy; and from the natural outline of these rocks, and their green covering, they have all the appearance of ruins.

I have said, that the valleys generally contain a stream; and these, although insignificant in comparison with the rivers to which we are accustomed in England, are yet, more consider-

able than one might expect to find in so small an island. Mr. Falle in his valuable history of Jersey, assigns, and I think correctly, as a reason for this, the peculiar shape of the island, which, although greatly diversified in its surface, is, as a whole, an inclined plane, sloping from south to north; the consequence of which is, that the streams have a longer course than if the island were most elevated in the centre,—and are more likely to unite their waters, than if they flowed to the sea in different directions; and indeed, so considerable are these streams, that nearly forty mills are turned by them. None of the Jersey rivulets however, afford sport to the angler. This may be partly no doubt owing to their scantiness; but not altogether so: for both in Scotland, and on the continent, particularly in Bavaria, I have allured trout from moorland, or mountain rills, quite as insignificant as the streams of Jersey.

Although in walking, or riding up some of the Jersey valleys, the scenery of these individual valleys is laid open, it is difficult by walking or driving across the island, to obtain any view over it. The roads are in many places, over-arched

with trees; and even if they were not, as they invariably are, skirted with trees,—the high banks, covered with underwood and ivy, generally shut out the prospect. Stand up in your vehicle, or on your stirrups, or climb up one of the banks, and the matter is not much mended; a thick orchard is sure to be on the other side; and though an open grass field, or a corn field, occasionally seems to hold out expectations of a more open prospect, these are probably bounded on the other side by orchards, so that the view is still circumscribed.

It is fortunate however, since nature has refused the means of obtaining a view over the island, that art has supplied the defect: and indeed, I do not know any district, in any country, where one can post oneself more advantageously, for obtaining a correct idea of the general aspect of its surface. The chief elevation of this kind, is called La Hougue Bie, but more generally known by the name of Prince's Tower; from the summit of which, the eye embraces almost the whole island. I have never failed to be delighted with the view from this spot, which is not only interesting, as

at once laying open the whole character and extent of the island, but as being in itself, inexpressibly beautiful. Jersey appears like an extensive pleasure ground,—one immense park, thickly studded with trees; beautifully undulating, and dotted with cottages. Fertility is on every side seen meeting the sea; the fine curves of several of the bays may be distinctly traced; with their martello towers, and other more imposing defences; several of the larger valleys may be distinguished by the shadow which is thrown upon one side; while all around, the horizon is bounded by the blue sea, excepting towards the east, where the French coast is seen stretching in a wide curve towards the south and north; and in one direction, approaches so near to Jersey, that the white sea beach is distinctly seen; and in clear weather, even the towns that lie near to the coast. The prospect is altogether most charming; and among the many I have seen in my day, I know few that please me more.

The walk to this spot too, is a beautiful one; it is not above three miles; and in this distance, a tolerably correct idea may be formed of the envi-

rons of the town; for the first part of the road which leads thither, is skirted by villas, and cottage residences, and by fine wooded slopes upon which they are built; and passes one of the most interesting of the island churches,—St. Saviour's,—in the church yard of which, one may very well linger a while in the shade of its trees, or looking down from it, upon the town, and the bay of St. Aubin. Government-house too, lies on the same road. It is not well seen from the road; and the view of it would scarcely reward a walk up the avenue, which may easily be known by the absurd parade of a sentinel pacing to and fro, and a corporal's guard yawning in the lodge.

The tower of La Hougue Bie, stands upon an artificial mound of some height, thickly planted with trees, and evergreen shrubs; and in the months of August and September, when the hydrangeas are in blossom, the attractions of the spot are greatly increased; for these beautiful shrubs, of the dimensions almost of trees, form the avenues in the neighbourhood; and at that season, covered with their large blue flowers, the effect produced is indeed most captivating.

have nowhere seen the hydrangea so luxuriant in its growth, as in the Channel Islands; and the flowers are most commonly blue, not pink, as we are more accustomed to see them in England.

But I must not dismiss the tower of La Hougue Bie, without briefly noticing the legend with which it is connected.

It is said in the "Livre noir de Coutances," that this part of Jersey was infested by a monstrous serpent, or dragon, which devoured all within its range, and threatened in the end, to depopulate the island. Now it so happened, that there chanced to be living somewhere on the opposite coast of France, a certain Norman noble called De Hambie, a Hercules in strength, and a Lion in courage; and, he having heard of the terror spread by this monster, resolved to encounter and slay it, or perish in the attempt. In this expedition, De Hambie was attended by his hitherto trusty domestic; and the heroic Norman having found the dragon, encountered and slew it. Some say,—he was suffocated by the pestilential breath of the monster; others have it, that while he slept exhausted with the fight, his

servant murdered him. Be that as it may, De Hambie was no more,—and the servant returned to Normandy, relating to the bereaved wife of his master, and solemnly asseverating, the wish of his dying lord, that she should bestow her hand upon his trusty servant. This she consented to; but conscience slumbers not, nor sleeps; and the murderer, whether in sleep, or in a fit of delirium, confessed his crime; and the whole truth being drawn from him, he suffered the punishment due to its enormity. The widow, as a proof of conjugal affection, caused a mound of earth to be raised on the spot where her lord was murdered; and on the summit of it, a tower, and chapel, of so great a height, that she might be enabled to see it from her own castle at Coutances. There are other versions of the legend, but this is perhaps as good as any of them,—and quite as authentic.

The tower, although certainly the most advantageous spot for commanding a view of the island, is not the only one from which a view may be obtained; Fort Regent; Mount Orgueil,—of which I shall afterwards speak; the heights above St.

Aubin's; and a tower on the south-east extremity of the island, on the manor of Saumarez, all command extensive prospects; though from none of them, as from Prince's Tower, is the whole island seen spread out like a map at your feet.

The view from Prince's Tower, immediately begets a desire to range over the island; to penetrate into the vallies and ravines; to wander through the fields, pastures, orchards and gardens; and to descend to the bays and creeks, which one pictures full of quiet and beauty: and for my own part, I was not long in yielding to this desire.

Every place has its lions; every district in every travelled country under the sun, has its accustomed drives; and the traveller who visits Jersey for a few days, for the purpose of seeing the island, will be placed in a jaunting car, and carried across the island,—or taken the great round, and little round,—and be told he has seen Jersey. But there are many valleys up which the jaunting car never travels,—many deep dells, where there are no roads for cars,—many a tiny rivulet that waters into fertility, green meadows dotted

with cattle that seldom raise their heads to look on the stranger,—many little coves, inlets and creeks, to which there is no trodden path; and therefore the traveller who seats himself in his vehicle, gains but a very imperfect knowledge of the outward aspect, and natural beauties of Jersey.

It is impossible in fact to gain any accurate notion of the interior of Jersey, by following the great roads only. In this island, there are two descriptions of roads,—the ancient, and the new: the latter are numerous,—wide, and well constructed,—intersecting the island in many directions,—and tending, more perhaps than any other alteration to which Jersey has been subjected, to improve the land,—and necessarily, the condition of the people. It is to the public spiritedness of Sir George Don, one of the late Governors of Jersey, that the inhabitants owe the advantage of which I am speaking: and it will scarcely be credited, that the greatest possible opposition was offered, to the construction of roads. This opposition was of course fruitless; and Jersey can now boast of facilities for intercourse and for the conveyance of produce, quite

equal to those that are enjoyed in the most civilized parts of Europe.

But having passed this exordium upon the new roads, let me recur to the old ones, with which, at present, I have more to do, as I am occupied in this chapter, not with the facilities offered for trade; but with the facilities offered to those who desire to obtain a perfect acquaintance with the interior of the island. These old island roads, are extremely narrow; wide enough for only one country cart; extremely winding; and yet utterly regardless of maintaining a level,—descending into deep dells,—or climbing the heights, with a view only to the termination. They have generally a very narrow paved foot way, on one side,—now however, greatly worn,—and everywhere necessarily out of repair; and these roads, are almost without exception overarched by trees. Once plunge into these bye-ways, and you cannot tell when you may emerge from them. Their number is almost uncountable; they branch off at all angles; and it sometimes happens, that the shade is so deep, and the banks so high, to say nothing of the windings,—that one may walk

for miles without having any opportunity of judging where one is, or in what direction one has been moving.

But during a day's ramble through these roads, much is seen of Jersey: it is true indeed, as I have already said, that one may walk a long way without catching a glimpse beyond the trees and the banks; but it is not universally so: beautiful vistas are occasionally laid open; quiet sequestred dells crossed, where one may linger long with nature; and, as these roads were originally constructed from the churches to the sea, embracing in their turnings the farm houses, and other habitations, you are not only led by them to the old Jersey houses, but also among the orchards and pastures whence the people have derived their independence. It is in such walks, that you will see the cows, celebrated over all the world, breeding for export; and the loaded trees, blooming with the blossom, or bent with the fruit, to be afterwards converted into the great export of the island. I should like much to know, how many miles of these old roads Jersey contains. Considering their numerous branches, and sinuosities,

—and the diameter of the island which they intersect, I should guess their whole extent to be not less than from three to four hundred miles; and several persons with whom I have spoken, and who are well acquainted with the island, consider this to be greatly below the truth.

But, by the stranger who visits Jersey, these roads are altogether untravelled; and even in the little guide books which from time to time have been written,—very nice little books in many respects—there is no counsel given, to follow these roads; nor any mention made of them, excepting as roads which have been entirely superceded by the better and more modern communications. It is said, that of old, some of these were privileged paths; and were intended for those who had taken sanctuary in the churches, and who had been sentenced to exile, to reach the sea shore in safety. These privileged paths, or rather, the privilege of these paths, terminated of course at the reformation. Notwithstanding the formation of the new roads, the country people still make great use of the old. It is almost always possible to journey between one point and another by the

old as well as by the new roads,—only somewhat more circuitously; and during the summer heats, it is no small convenience to be able to reach the neighbourhood of the town, with heavy market baskets, through those shady paths that admit but a straggling ray even of the noon-day sun. In winter, it may easily be believed that these lanes are dark and wet,—and that the air in them is damp; and even in the later weeks of autumn, it is wise to keep on the highways, as the decomposition of accumulated vegetable matter, and the want of a free circulation of air, cannot be otherwise than unwholesome. Walking through the bye-paths of Jersey, one is struck with the luxuriance of vegetation,—especially in the south eastern parts of the island: the growth of ivy I have already spoken of; the high banks, are everywhere overspread with a multitude of shrubs, and wild flowers; and many kinds of garden produce too, attain an enormous size; I have seen cabbages seven feet high,—and many other vegetables of proportionate growth.

But before leaving altogether, the subject of roads, let me observe, that although the new mi-

litary roads of which I have spoken, contribute greatly to the improvement of the island, it is doubtful if they do not detract from its security in a military point of view; and yet, it was the advantage expected to be derived from these roads, in the defence of the island, that induced government to grant £1000 towards their construction; for it was at that time argued, that greater facilities would by their means be offered for the transport of the island force to any threatened point. But the question obviously is, whether the advantage secured by this greater celerity of transport, be not overbalanced, by having opened greater facilities to a superior force for penetrating into the interior,—which, before the construction of the new roads, would have been extremely difficult even in the face of a greatly inferior force.

If, before these military communications were opened, an enemy had made good his landing in any of the larger bays, the ground in front of his position, would have required to be reconnoitred, before he attempted to advance into the country. On leaving the beach, every acre of

ground would then have presented a fortified position; for every field is enclosed by a mound of earth, six or eight feet broad at the base, scarcely less in height, and surmounted by rows of trees, and hedges of brambles; and the only openings would have been half a dozen of the narrow sunk lanes flanked by these banks. It need scarcely be said, that in an advance through these lanes, an enemy would have been galled by a destructive fire from behind these banks, on which cannon could have made no impression. To force one of these embankments would have been futile, because another would have been discovered at the distance of a musket shot farther. And if an enemy should have attempted to move a body of troops forward in one of these lanes, it might probably terminate in the court-yard of a farm house.

But all this intricacy is destroyed by the construction of the new roads; and the difficulties which would otherwise have been encountered by an enemy, greatly smoothed. Good carriage roads now lead down to the bays: these roads join a circular communication, which runs round the

island; and crossing this, proceed in direct lines to St. Helier's. Now therefore, an enemy has only to keep the high road with the main body of his troops, and thus gaining the heights which surround the town, invest both it and Fort Regent. I ought perhaps to ask forgiveness of the general reader, for this short military digression.

Of the state of cultivation of Jersey, I shall have occasion afterwards to speak; but remarking at present on the general features and character of the island, I would observe, that one sees but very little waste land,—unless indeed, that which is wasted by reason of the broad banks which skirt the roads and paths, and the quantity of wood. In rambling over the island however, the description of wooded fertility which I have given, will not be constantly applicable. On one part of the island,—that towards the north west, —you emerge from the orchards and deep dells, and shady paths, and find open downs, which reach to the sea in that direction. These are all enclosed, and furnish good pasture; and although the beautiful and the picturesque, be here left behind, these scenes are not without their charm.

There is a freshness in the air, and a buoyancy of spirit felt, in treading these high open grounds; the very contrast afforded with the rest of the island, is pleasing,—since variety is always pleasing; and these downs are besides, adorned by several kinds of flowering heath, far excelling in the size, and tint of its blossoms, any that is seen growing wild in Britain. It even reminded me of that which grows so abundantly in many parts of Spain, particularly on the road by San Felippe, between Murcia and Valencia.

CHAPTER III.

The town of St. Aubin, situation, inhabitants. Grouville, and its church; the island churches; the town of Gorey; Mont Orgueil Castle; magnificent prospect; the oyster fishery of Gorey: traditions; Prynne, and his poetry; the island hamlets; farm houses; manor houses; villas, and gardens; flowers; a few words on climate.

St. Helier, although the chief town, is not the only one. Jersey contains two other towns, and many hamlets. Let me first speak briefly of St. Aubin; which gives a name to the magnificent bay in which St. Helier's stands. In all the views over the bay of St. Aubin, whether from sea or land, this little town is a great adorner of the landscape. To reach St. Aubin, one must either cross the bay, from St. Helier's pier, in a boat, which at high water, and with every wind but a westerly wind, is practicable; or else, drive round the bay; and even this drive, admits of variation;

for there is a choice between the road,—which runs all the way within a hundred yards of high water mark,—and the fine hard sand, which stretches almost the whole distance between St. Helier and St. Aubin, and which is always passable excepting at high water.

This is a beautiful drive,—for there is the union of a sea view and a rich landscape; a union rarely met with in England, where open downs, and sand hillocks, almost invariably mark the neighbourhood of the sea. All the way to St. Aubin, the road is skirted by a range of beautiful heights, covered with wood, and meadows, and everywhere presenting the aspect of perfect fertility. A little before reaching St. Aubin's, the road leaves the sea shore,—and ascends the eminence on the other side of which St. Aubin is situated; and at the top of this eminence, one is at the entrance of the town, and of the steep irregular street which descends on the other side to the sea.

Nothing can be sweeter than the situation of St. Aubin; partly skirting the shore, and partly lying on the rocky and well wooded heights, that from the backs of the houses drop perpendicular-

ly into the sea; and backed, and surrounded on three sides, by a very fertile, and yet a picturesque country. To the lover of quiet and seclusion, St. Aubin is just such a place as might be chosen among a thousand. There are many good houses in this little town; for be it known, St. Aubin was not always the quiet little nook it now is. Once it was the chief town for trade; and here resided the principal merchants; but like other greater revolutions, St. Helier's rose, and St. Aubin fell; and its population now consists of those old residents who have still their houses and a little property there,—and who, with the surgeon, and a few shopkeepers, and some ten or twelve English families who rent houses, or live in lodgings, eke out the vegetative population of this retreat from the world. Besides the flux and reflux of the tide, St. Aubin has other little events to mark the progress of time; there is the rattling of the car over the ill paved street, passing every day to and from St. Helier. During the summer and autumn, there are parties almost daily passing through to visit the neighbouring country: then, it happens occa-

sionally, that in neap tides, a vessel of too large dimensions to enter St. Helier's harbour, casts anchor near St. Aubin, in the big roads, as they are called in Jersey; and this also is an event. St. Aubin too, has its inn, and its market place; and it also boasts its pier, projecting from a rock on which a fortress is built, mounting fourteen guns. At low water, the rock and harbour are left dry, but at high water, there is a depth of thirty feet within the pier. There are several handsome villas in the neighbourhood of St. Aubin, inhabited mostly by Jersey families, who maintain among themselves a very friendly intercourse.

I have spent two or three long summer days delightfully, in the neighbourhood of this secluded village; the surrounding country is beautiful and diversified; the views over the bay enchanting; sheltered by the high cliffs, there is seldom a rude wind to annoy and distract one: the usual calmness of the sea, too, is in harmony; and after idling away a day among these quiet scenes, one may chance to find a bit of fresh fish, and an indifferent good cutlet in the inn.

There is no church in St. Aubin; but St. Brelade, of which I shall afterwards speak, and in which parish St. Aubin lies,—and St. Peter's church, are neither of them at any great distance. St. Peter is celebrated in Jersey by the valley which bears its name; and which has the reputation of being the most beautiful valley in the island. It is certainly a pretty valley; but those who have explored the island, and followed the bye paths, will scarcely allow it the precedence. I know several which I prefer to it, one especially which enters from the north of St. Helier, at a spot called the Town Mills,—which is not only greatly more extensive than St. Peter's, but more varied in its character.

The third town in Jersey, is Gorey,—now, owing to its oyster fishery, a place of more importance than St. Aubin, and always more attractive to strangers, from its immediate vicinity to Mont Orgueil Castle,—which, entitled as it is, to be called the pride of Jersey, is well worthy of its name. The road from St. Helier to Gorey is scarcely less beautiful than that from St. Helier to St. Aubin; and is more varied in its

character. It does not skirt the sea shore, but passes through a rich low country, wooded in its immediate vicinity, but separated from the sea, by low damp meadows, some parts of which, lie several feet below high water mark. It is worth one's while however, to make a circuit by the sea shore, which presents at low water, an aspect of singular ruggedness and desolation. Look over the sea at high water, and a few points of dark rocks are seen rising above the surface; as the tide falls, these increase in number, and magnitude; till, at low water, the whole of this part of the coast, extending for four or five miles, and at least two miles below high water mark, is covered by a terrific congregation of rocks of all forms and dimensions, and of various heights; forming a barrier far more effectual, than any that art could raise for the defence of the island. Absurdly enough, on some of the most distant of these, martello towers are erected. The once prevailing mania for martello towers, has been extensively indulged in, in Jersey: all round the island, these ruined defences are seen,—adding somewhat to the picturesque aspect of the shore,

but little I suspect, to the security of the island. I must not forget however, that I am at present on the road to Gorey.

Before reaching this town however, and after passing a tolerably lofty ridge, one drops down upon the church and hamlet of Grouville,—the name of the parish in which Gorey lies. There is the church,—and the parsonage,—and a public house or two,—and two or three or four other houses, and a few cottages, scattered about; and these, mingled as they are, with gardens and orchards, form a very pretty feature in the scenery of this part of the island. I think the church of Grouville, one of the prettiest in the island; there is a great deal of quiet rural beauty about it, and the neighbouring parsonage. Scarcely will the interior of any of the churches repay a visit to them; but in general, their situation is highly attractive: their plain towers, or steeples, and ancient solid architecture, are in excellent keeping with the close, and wooded scenery which generally surrounds them; and which has itself, an antique character, from the quantity of ivy which clings to the trunks of the trees, and the

over-arching branches which in many places meet, above the road. The churches of Jersey differ very much in their antiquity,—and consequently, considerably in their stile. That of Grouville, is one of the most modern; it was erected in the beginning of the fourteenth century.

Mont Orgueil Castle is seen, some time before one reaches the village of Gorey, which lies at its feet; but the village must be skirted before reaching the castle. The village lies, partly close to the sea and harbour, and partly on the height, which rises towards the entrance to the castle; and in situation, has every thing to recommend it. But it is owing to the oyster fishery, that any peculiar importance attaches to this little town. This fishery, is the chief support of Gorey, and is of considerable importance to the island at large. Upwards of two hundred and fifty boats are employed in the fishery; about one half of which belong to the island; and in recent years the fishery has employed as many as fifteen hundred sailors, besides nearly a thousand persons chiefly women and boys, in matters connected with the fishery. The oysters after being brought

to Gorey, are sorted; the large, are sent to St. Helier for sale,—while the smaller are set apart for the English market; and it is from the Gorey fishery, that the Colchester oyster market is chiefly supplied. It is computed that between 20 and £30,000 are annually returned into the island, from the produce of the oyster fishery. The oysters brought to St. Helier's market, are of an inferior quality: they are course, and tough; and scarcely to be relished by those who have been accustomed to the best Colchester oyster.

It may easily be believed, that during the season, from the 1st of October to the 20th of May, Gorey presents a good deal of bustle and animation; and the spectacle is not only animated, but beautiful, when on a fine spring afternoon, the fleet of fishing boats with full sails and bent masts is seen under the influence of a gentle breeze, making for their general rendezvous.

Some awkward disputes have arisen from time to time, and now indeed exist between the English and French authorities, respecting the fishing boundaries; which are not very clearly defined. The oyster banks lie near to the French coast,

and it is not yet settled, whether the distance from the French coast, within which, the fisheries are permitted, is to be computed from low or high water mark; a difference however of very material importance, as regards the productiveness of the fishery, on a coast, where the tide recedes nearly four miles. It is certainly of the utmost importance, that this dispute be settled speedily. Already, the fishery is somewhat on the decline; and unless the very disadvantageous provisional arrangement entered into by the British government on the representation of Prince Polignac, be changed, Jersey will lose altogether this important branch of trade, which will be transferred to the inhabitants of the opposite shores.

But the great attraction of Gorey, is its neighbour Mont Orgueil Castle; certainly one of the most striking and picturesque, of any of these remnants of antiquity, which in any country add ornament to scenery, or interest to tradition. Its situation is most commanding, standing upon the summit of a rocky headland, which juts into the sea, and stretching its walls, and mounds, inland, along the neck of land, that connects the rock with the

rest of the island. Whether seen from land or from sea, Mont Orgueil is well entitled to the appellation of an imposing ruin. In many parts, the walls are yet entire; but in other places, massive as they are, they have yielded to the pressure of time; and the mantle of ivy, which in most parts hangs from their very summits, is in fine union with the grey tint of age, that here and there is seen, where the walls are bare; and with the loop-holes, and "rents that time has made."

The ascent to the summit, is somewhat toilsome,—but one is amply repaid for the labour of it, by the magnificence of the prospect. It embraces several of the bays which lie on either side, —the richly wooded range of heights, that girds the central parts of the island,—the village far below, with its little harbour, and shipping,—the whole expanse of sea,—and the distant coast of France. This, in ancient days, was an important place. Its origin and builder, are alike unknown; but it was a place of some consequence in the reign of King John, by whose directions, its fortifications were strengthened and enlarged. In

Falle's history of the island, this castle bears a conspicuous part,—but these matters do not lie within the scope of my work, which has reference only to the present condition of the Channel Islands.

Two noted persons have been inmates of Mont Orgueil Castle; Charles the Second, who remained in it several months, and whose apartment is yet shown,—and the well known Prynne, who was a prisoner in it from August 1637, to November 1640. While in confinement, he celebrated it in verse,—and entitled his poem, "A poetical description of Mont Orgueil Castle, in the isle of Jersey, interlaced with some brief meditations from its rocky steep, and lofty situation."

Mont Orgueil is not now maintained as a military defence. Its garrison consists of a sergeant, and two privates, whose duty is confined to hoisting a flag on holidays. A royal salute used to be fired from the castle on such days; and there are still some mounted guns; but this waste of powder has been discontinued.

I have now spoken of the general aspect of the island,—of its capital, and its two smaller towns,

and of one or two other objects of especial inteterest. I have no intention of describing, or even of enumerating its hamlets; these, I may observe generally, are to be found in the neighbourhood of each of the twelve churches; and some of them, are entitled, almost to the appellation of a village; and besides these, several other small villages, or large hamlets, are to be found along the sea coast, both east and west of St. Helier. The hamlets in Jersey, are like hamlets everywhere else,—consisting perhaps, of a parsonage, a school house,—a public house,—a blacksmith's shop,—probably another small shop of all wares, —a farm house,—and a few cottages: and these dwellings are scattered about, and mingled with orchards, and gardens. Of the interior of the houses, I shall afterwards speak, when I am occupied with their inhabitants.

Besides the farm houses which one meets with, in exploring the island, you occasionally stumble upon a very large, massive, and shapeless building,—evidently of some antiquity, and meant to be the habitation of persons of some distinction: perhaps there is an arched gateway,—and

an uncouth emblem in stone surmounting it; and it may be, there is an avenue of well grown trees, extending in a straight line from the gateway. These are the manor houses, of which there are several in the island. They are not worth going expressly to see; but if one stumbles upon them, it may be worth while to stand still. I would except the manor house of St. Ouen's, which I think, repays a journey. It is a fine venerable place; but it is in a sadly delapidated condition.

Nor is the interior of the island altogether deficient in modern villas, and cottage residences; though these are not numerous, and not in general, remarkable for their beauty. Nearest to the towns, these are of course more numerous; but they are also scattered here and there, over most parts of the island; and are generally prettily situated; and with the usual accompaniments of orchard and garden-ground. And this leads me to remark, as another feature of the external aspect of Jersey, the pretty peeps one gets into the flower gardens; and the variety of flowers which one finds in them. It is seldom,—I might say never,—that one sees a house or a cottage

not absolutely in a street, unaccompanied by less or more garden; and in many of the gardens, especially those nearest to the town, a fine blow of beautiful flowers is generally seen. Besides the flowers and shrubs, that are met with in any English garden, we find many that are usually considered green-house plants in England. All kinds of myrtles grow luxuriantly, and flower regularly in the open air; the hydrangea is seen at almost every other cottage door,—measuring, perhaps, from eight to twelve feet in circumference, and four or five in height. The yerba louisa, or lemon plant, is also common. Trees too, that are strange to English eyes, are seen in the course of a morning's ramble,—particularly the fig; and I have pulled this fruit, in as great perfection, from trees in Jersey, as anywhere in the southern parts of the continent. Among the timber trees too, the Spanish chesnut, and the evergreen oak, are oftener seen than in England. All of these little things, are distinctive features in the external aspect of the island; and cannot be omitted in this general view.

The climate of Jersey, is always understood to

be one of the chief attractions of the island; and although I cannot but think that its superiority in this respect has been overrated, yet, it cannot be doubted, that it has upon the whole, the advantage of England. I do not at present speak of climate, as connected with health; to this subject, a separate chapter will by and bye be dedicated, by a more competent pen. I speak of climate, merely as its influences are felt by the healthy; and, as its greater or less excellence, contributes to one's enjoyment.

That the climate of Jersey is warmer than that of any part of England is certain. The mean annual temperature for the last three years, ending with 31st December, 1833, I have ascertained, from an unerring source, to be 52. 50. This higher average than the climate of England presents, arises more, from the higher temperature of winter, than of summer. During the three years ending with the commencement of the present year, the thermometer never rose abovs 83; nor ever fell below 27,* and was

* These results have been kindly communicated to me by Dr. Hooper, of Jersey, whose thermometrical and meterological observations have been accumulated during several years, by the most accurate instruments; and which, I believe, it is the intention of Dr. Hooper by and bye to publish.

during these years, but very rarely below the freezing point. These facts sufficiently establish the higher temperature of the climate of Jersey.

The climate of Jersey, approaches nearer to that of Penzance than to any other part of England: but there are differences; for although the mean annual temperature of the two places differs very little, the temperature is differently distributed over the months. The results of the thermometer in Jersey are curious, as exhibiting the mean temperature of the different months. The following is the enumeration of the months, in the order of their respective temperature, beginning with the highest; viz. August, July, June, September, May, October, April, November, December, March, February, January- This distribution of heat certainly differs materially from any part of England. In England, March would rank higher, and October, November and December lower.

During the two years that I resided in the Channel Islands, I never saw a flake of snow; nor any frost which did not yield during the forenoon; and from April till October, I should

say, fires are rarely necessary: and in one respect, there is another decided point of superiority which Jersey possesses: it is, the equability of temperature during the twenty-four hours. In England, a hot day, is often, in summer, succeeded by a chilly evening: but in Jersey, the chill of evening rarely admonishes one, of the necessity of closing the window. The dews however, are extremely heavy,—so much so, that early on a summer morning, one might easily believe, that a light shower had recently fallen on the pavement of the streets.

More rain falls in Jersey, than in most parts of England; but less, it is believed, than in Devonshire and Cornwall. I have not been able to ascertain the average depth, for in the summer of 1833, no rain fell during many months; but this draught was amply compensated by the rains of the following winter. The winter of 1833-34; was an exception everywhere. At Jersey, there was a succession of tempests from the beginning of December, till the beginning of February.

High winds are certainly very prevalent in Jersey; and this, as far as pleasure is concerned,

almost balances the superiority of climate in other respects. A perfectly calm day, even in summer, is rare; and generally speaking, even the finest weather, may be called blowy weather.

The general superiority of temperature in Jersey, compared with England, will have already appeared from the incidental notice of the productions found in the gardens; and acquiring full maturity without artificial heat. On the 5th of January last, walking on the sea coast, I observed peas, a foot above ground; growing within a very few yards of high water mark; and while I am now writing (21st January) I have on the table before me, a nosegay of narcessus, jonquils; stock, double wall-flower, rosemary in flower,—myrtle in flower, polyanthus, mignonette, hyacinth, and woodbine in full bloom. Making allowance for the extraordinary mildness of the winter of 1833-34, in England as well as in Jersey, I think I may be warranted in doubting, whether such a nosegay could have been gathered in England on that day, in one garden, where no particular pains were taken in the cultivation of flowers.

CHAPTER IV.

The sea coast; bays, coves and creeks; plan of a journey; druidical remains; Rozel bay, and its attractions; Boulay bay; its aptitude for a naval station; Grève de Lecq; charming scenery; St. Brelade's bay; the church and chapel; rose d'amour. Natural defences of Jersey; rocks, and rock scenery; tides and currents; traditions.

I have as yet confined myself to the external face of the island in the interior. I shall in this chapter speak of those numerous, and beautiful bays, creeks, and coves, which are peculiarly characteristic of Jersey, and which by many, are considered its greatest ornament.

The whole circumference of Jersey is indented by bays, creeks, and coves, of all dimensions,—from the wide bay whose curve measures four or five miles,—to the little creek, which measures but a few hundred yards across the mouth; and so different are these bays and coves from each other, not only in their dimensions, but in their

forms, and in the natural scenery by which they are surrounded, that if the traveller, who has but a few days to spare for the natural beauties of the island, enquires what he must see? the bays, are always enumerated, as among the objects most worthy of observation.

My advice to one who might be desirous of exploring the coast, as well as the interior of the island, would be, to make the circuit of the coast, which, with the exception of some few headlands, it is quite possible to do,—sometimes following the bridle road, or the foot path which runs near the sea; sometimes making a path for one's self,—and sometimes descending to the beach, and taking advantage of low water, to double the cliffs and promontories. This, I have myself done; and I do not know that four or five days can be passed more agreeably. To make this little journey as it ought to be made, four or five days are required; for one is apt to linger long among the quiet, sweet, and secluded spots, that by following the sea-line, are every hour almost, presenting themselves. I need scarcely say, that accommodation for the night, is not to be had at the spot

where each day's journey might end; but by diverging a mile or two from the coast, such supper and lodging may be had in one or other of the hamlets, as ought to satisfy a traveller; and each day the circuit may be resumed, from the point where it was left off the night before. The details of such a journey, which would necessarily be altogether descriptive, and of considerable length, belong rather to a guide book, than to a work of this kind, and would be uninteresting to the general reader who had no intention of visiting the island. I shall therefore speak only, of those parts of the coast which are the most interesting.

I have already spoken of St. Aubin's bay, which is certainly the noblest of all the bays of Jersey: for although the curve of St. Ouen's bay be considerably wider, it is not nearly so deep,—the curve line of the former, measuring at least double the width across its mouth. The beauty of St. Aubin's bay depends greatly upon the state of the tide, whose rise and fall is not less than forty feet. At high water, this brimful bay is scarcely to be excelled in the features of beauty and fertility.

The other bays which I shall mention as deserving of notice, are St. Catherine's bay; Rozel bay; Boulay bay; Grève de Lecq, and St. Brelade's bay.

The first of these I shall not dwell upon; the road to it, from Mont Orgueil Castle winds along the cliffs, and skirts a small cove called Anne port, near to which are some of those druidical remains, which are found everywhere within a certain degree of latitude, to interest the antiquary, and astonish the vulgar. The antiquities of the island, I shall leave to those who have handled them, and pass on to St. Catherine's bay, which although not equal in picturesque beauty to some of those still to be mentioned, possesses considerable attractions; and an insulated tower, at the southern point, adds greatly to the interest of the scene.

But one of, if not the very sweetest of all the bays of Jersey, is Rozel. This is indeed a very beautiful spot: it is rather an inlet, or deep creek than a bay; and all the features that surround it, are calculated to increase its attractions. High cliffs and banks hem it in,—deep wooded glens are seen branching into the interior; there is a

little harbour too,—and a few fishermen's houses scattered on the beach; and the barracks, erected not far distant, although not very picturesque in their form, yet, owing to their untenanted and delapidated state, are not altogether out of keeping with the general features of the scene. But these barracks are now put to a use far different from that for which they were intended. Rozel is the favourite spot for pic-nic parties; and nothing can be more convenient than a room in this building, as a rendezvous after the scrambles of the morning.

Boulay bay, on the northern coast, is not only remarkable for the bold character of the scenery by which it is surrounded: but it is important in other respects. The idea has long been entertained by government, of constructing on some part of the coast of Jersey, a naval station, which in time of war, would not only be a safeguard to the island, but an efficient protection to the trade of the channel, as well as a convenient point of observation, from which the movements of the French coast, from Cherbourg to Brest, might be watched. Boulay bay seemed to offer the greatest

advantages for this object. Its roadstead affords easy access, and good anchorage, and there being a considerable depth of water in Boulay bay, when all the other bays of the island are dry, attention was naturally attracted towards it. Several surveys have accordingly been made, and soundings taken; and it has been sufficiently ascertained, that by the construction of a sufficiently extensive pier, and breakwater, a haven might be formed, capable of being employed as a naval station. A pier on a limited scale, has been sometime ago constructed by direction of the States of Jersey, at a considerable cost; and this would of course form the commencement of the government work, should such a work be resolved upon. The latest survey was made little more than a year ago; and the result was equally favourable to the plan; though the sum required for the object, was estimated at a much larger amount than was at first contemplated.

As an object of interest to the traveller, Boulay bay is not without its attractions; the rocks in its neighbourhood, are bold, and precipitous; and the contrast between the wooded and cultivated shores

of many of the other bays,—and the naked, heath covered heights that slope from the cliffs above Boulay bay, are even agreeable.

Between Boulay bay, and the next spot I mentioned, "Grève de Lecq," many interesting spots will be found by the traveller who makes a circuit of the whole coast; and the lover of caverns, will find abundant room for the indulgence of his curiosity. Grève de Lecq is not a bay, but a cove; and to my mind, realizes the precise meaning of the word,—such as I been used to affix to it, when in perusing the voyages of old navigators, I have read, that the vessel put into a deep and sheltered cove, in some uninhabited island, in search of wood and water. Such is Grève de Lecq; approached through a narrow and deep valley, of a wild, but beautiful aspect,—bounded by nearly perpendicular cliffs,—and offering, alike in its form, and situation, and general features, a perfect picture of a solitary island cove: here too, the sea has worn caves among the rocks; and here, on a fine summer evening, when the sun flames up the narrow valley, gilding the broad leaved fern, and the clumps of oak that checker

the slopes; and when all is still, but the low plash of the little waves, one may linger, in the conviction, that no island of more distant seas, offers a sweeter scene.

I have mentioned one other bay,—that of St. Brelade, which lies in the southern part of the island,—and which, for many reasons, is one of the most interesting of all the bays of the island. The shores of this bay are sloping,—as are all the southern shores of the island,—and are everywhere covered with a small ground rose, of the finest colour, and emitting all the fragrance of the "rose d'amour." Excepting in the southern parts of Bavaria, I have never observed this rose elsewhere than in Jersey. St. Brelade's bay has an attraction which none of the other bays possess. The ancient parish church stands on the west side of the bay, quite at the water's edge, elevated a little above it; the church-yard is washed by the sea at high tide; and on this side of the bay, a picturesque back ground is formed by rock, and wood,—and by a deep cleft, that runs up from the shore. The church itself, is the most ancient in the island; it is extremely small,

and extremely plain; and boasts neither tower nor spire; and one of the old chapels of the island, which are anterior in the date of their erection, to the churches, stands in the church yard. There are many other remains of these chapels in Jersey; but this is the only one in any tolerable preservation. The curious in antiquities may find wherewithall to speculate upon, in the vestiges of some rude paintings that are still to be discovered on the walls of the chapel, and which, in their day, were no doubt thought to embellish them.

Take it all in all, the bay of St, Brelade is perhaps the most attractive of the island bays. Boulay bay is grander; St. Aubin's nobler; Rozel and Grève de Lecq, more secluded; but in none of them, do we find so much, as in St. Brelade's, the union of the barren, the wild, and the picturesque; and in none of them, do the works of man, harmonize so well, with the natural scenery that surrounds them.

The coast, and shores of Jersey, present strong natural defences: for independently of the precipitous cliffs, which form almost the whole

northern shores of the island,—and of the enormous beds of rocks which in the southern and eastern shores, stretch for several miles from high water mark, great chains of rock extend at some distance from shore, along both the north and south of the island ; and numerous isolated rocks, some of them elevated high, and others but a little, above the surface of the water, lie scattered in the surrouuding sea. These, independently of the direct dangers that arise from them, produce a multitude of conflicting currents, which, joined to the great force of the tide, render the navigation of the shores of Jersey both difficult and hazardous. If a vessel be seen in distress in a heavy gale, it is usual to say, " if she be a Jersey vessel, she's safe enough, but if a stranger, she'll be lost."

There are traditions, not only that the chain of rocks of which I have spoken, formed in remote times, a part of the island, but that it was connected by a bridge, with France. That the former tradition may have some foundation, is probable ; and indeed there are incontestable proofs that considerable tracts of land, now lying

far within the range of the tide, were formerly available to man: but that Jersey ever approached at any period, the shores of the continent, is an assertion too ridiculous to merit examination. Marvels are always popular; and the people of Jersey are not less credulous than their neighbours. These traditions have probably originated in the great fluctuations of the tide; and the shallowness of the sea in many parts. Around Jersey, the tide, as I have already mentioned, rises from forty to forty-five feet; and on the opposite coast, at St. Malo, the rise is not less than fifty-five feet. The reader will be able to form some idea of the distance which the tide ebbs, by referring to the map, on which the dotted line marks the sea line at low water.

CHAPTER V.

THE INHABITANTS OF JERSEY.

The condition of the country people; their character; independence; penuriousness; industry; saving habits; facts and illustrations; the "quid pro quo;" mode of life; a Jersey farm house; cooking; peculiarities of life; dress; holidays, and amusements; personal appearance; reputation for honesty; vraic gathering, and its accompaniments; ancient usages.

Now that I have given the reader, as I trust I have, some idea of the appearance of the island of Jersey, he may possibly feel some desire to know, what sort of persons inhabit it. To this subject, I shall devote the present chapter.

I need scarcely say, that the character, manners, and genius of a people, are not to be judged of from what we observe among the upper, or higher classes. These in all countries, resemble each other; and although, from the isolated position of Jersey, and from other causes which I

shall afterwards enumerate, peculiar traits are more observable among the upper classes of Jersey, than in larger communities,—yet, I shall look in the first place, for national traits, among the country people,—that largest class of the natives, who are at once, proprietors, occupiers, and labourers of the soil. This, is, with few exceptions, the condition of all the country people. These possessions are from two, or three vergées, up to twenty or thirty; but that I may speak more intelligibly, I may say, from one, up to ten or twelve English acres. Some few properties may run up to fifty, sixty, or even more acres, but this is extremely rare. The wealth of a Jerseyman, is not however to be estimated by the number of his vergées. A man possessing but a limited number of vergées, may be an extensive holder of rents, secured upon other possessions: and this requires a few words of explanation. A man who is in want of money, charges his property with the payment for ever, of any number of quarters of wheat; and these quarters, are transferable in the market, and divisible. (i. e.) If A lends B a sum of money, equal to twenty quarters annual

charge,—A may transfer these to C, D, E, and F, five quarters to each; and each of these again, may transfer his claim to five different individuals: so that quarters, are a floating heritable property, and are readily bought by any one who happens to have a little spare money; and as this, includes almost every farmer in Jersey, there are few who have not been purchasers, and are proprietors of some quarters.

It must always happen, that where men cultivate their own land, and labour for their own profit, a certain independence of character will be engendered,—an independence, whose foundation is natural and just,—and which is in itself, honourable to the possessor. In Jersey, other things contribute to foster this spirit among the inhabitants,—particularly, the possession of certain political rights and privileges, of which I shall afterwards have occasion briefly to speak; and the isolated position of the island which they inhabit. The spirit indeed, which animates the mass of the people,—more especially, the inferior classes, is strongly republican; and the blunt independence of character and manner, as well

as other evidences of this spirit, bear no small resemblance to the traits which attach to our brethren across the Atlantic. The surplus labour required upon the soil, beyond that which the possessors and their families can give,—or upon those properties which are in the hands of English residents, is performed by English, Irish and French labourers; for, Jersey labourers are not to be obtained for hire, though there is no difficulty in obtaining an exchange of labour, which is more consonant with their notions of independence. Among female servants too, there is a good deal of the American "help." There is no absolute rudeness among them; but there is much of the free and easy; and the same treatment which would be acceptable to an English servant, would speedily offend the sensitiveness of a Jersey born damsel.

It is a fact, that in all countries where we find a love of independence, and where that independence of character, is generated by independence in wordly circumstances, we also find a strong disposition towards avarice, and its natural accompaniments,—parsimony, and excessive fru-

gality. The origin of this, is not difficult to account for: independence in worldly circumstances, is absolutely essential towards independence of character and action; and men therefore, naturally employ the means by which this independence may be secured. With acquisition too, grows the love of it; and thus, we may easily comprehend how, in an isolated community, its members, gradually enriching themselves, and perceiving yearly, the certain results of frugality, should acquire habits which border upon the niggardly and sordid.

That this love of acquisition, and a strict frugality, form, with independence, another strong trait of Jersey character, is undeniable; and although it be true, that these traits are sometimes offensive, we scarcely can quarrel with that, which presents to us a population without paupers; and amongst which, there is no man who does not feel himself above the contempt of the proud, and the sneer of the rich.

The love of acquisition, and the economical habits which accompany it, are incapable of being separated; and the same traits afford proof of

both. Of these characteristics, abundant evidence may be found in the habits and manner of life, among the country people of Jersey.

I have heard it said, that a Jerseyman will do anything rather than put his hand in his pocket: and judging by facts which have come to my knowledge, I incline to put some faith in the saying. It frequently happens, for example, that rather than lay out money for inferior grain, to feed poultry, a small Jersey farmer will use his best wheat for this purpose: and several instances have come within my knowledge, in which cows have been all but starved,—fed on the most miserable offals, or sold, at any loss, rather than go to market, and purchase proper food for them. In these examples, which I am far from asserting to be universally applicable, but which are certainly not unusual, we recognise avarice carried so far as to defeat its own ends.

The strong disinclination to part with money,—or, which is the same thing,—the disinclination to consume that part of their farm produce which is readily convertible into money, (unless by consuming it, a greater expenditure is prevented,)

is strongly exhibited in case of illness. In case, for example, of a nourishing broth diet being ordered by a medical man, it is scarcely possible to prevail with the patient to sacrifice a barn door fowl, which next Saturday, would fetch eighteen pence in the market: he would rather run up a doctor's bill, and swallow physic.

The "quid pro quo" is also a tolerably general rule of conduct. A loan is expected to be repaid by a loan; labour to be given for labour: and here, independence of character, and love of money, go hand in hand. Rather than pay hire to a labourer, a Jersey farmer will ask the assistance of his neighbour; but at the same time, feels, that independence of character calls upon him to repay that labour which he has borrowed. This is all right: but the principle of "tit for tat," is at times carried too far. I have known two young ladies, in the course of a walk into the country, call at a farm house, and after taking some bread, tender payment for it, which was accepted: and I have known others, who, having been drenched with rain in the course of a walk, took refuge in a farm house, the mistress of which, accepted

payment for having lighted a fire of sea weed, to warm and dry them. But with all this penuriousness, a Jerseyman is altogether above accepting pecuniary assistance from strangers; and holds in especial horror, the resort of parish charity. May he long continue so to feel; and to prefer the rule of "quid pro quo," so long as it is allied to that independence which abhors, because it places him above the want of parochial relief.

The love of, and the spirit of independence, have other necessories than penuriousness. Industry is one of them; and it is sufficiently conspicuous in the natives of Jersey. They may be said to be, in all ranks, a hard working people; and appear never to consider themselves above their business,—a result, which in England, too often accompanies success. With few exceptions, "all work and no play," is their maxim to live by; and the inclination to make the most of time, is observable among the country women, as well as among the country men. If on a market morning, you meet half a dozen women heavily enough laden with vegetables and other country produce, it is ten to one they have all contrived

to keep their hands unembarrassed, and are busily employing them with the knitting needle: and when sitting in the market place with their fish, fruit or butter, few sit idle: even in the midst of winter, the knitting needle is still in their hands. I have even seen women on horseback, knitting as they rode to market.

It may easily be surmised, that the mode of life among the country people, is in conformity with the national traits of which I have been speaking. Let me first give the reader some idea of a Jersey farm house. I take at a venture, one of the middle order, the proprietor of which, owns about fifteen vergées, or from five to six English acres; and is besides, not without his "quarters." You enter a green shady lane, branching from one of the main roads; and reach a high wooded gate, flanked by two granite pillars, overgrown with drawf moss. Entering by a small door on the left of the gate, you find yourself in a rather dirty yard, paved with blueish pebbles. On one side, stands the farm house built of stone, solid and ungainly in its form, and roofed with tile, or, it may be, with thatch. On

the other side, stand the barns, byre, cider press and hay stack, &c. The front of the house is most probably covered with a vine, which sometimes half shades the windows, and is religiously preserved, although from the great abundance of out-door vines, its value is little, and its utility questionable. The farm house has two doors; one, leading you into the kitchen in common use,—the other, opening into a passage, having, what is called the best parlour on one side, and the best kitchen on the other; and opposite to the front door, at the other end of the passage, is the back door, leading into the garden—a very faulty arrangement, by which a stiff breeze is constantly kept up within the house.

If your visit be made about noon, you will find a good fire burning on the hearth, boiling the soup kettle. The fire is composed of "vraic," (of which I shall afterwards speak,) and a few faggots; and the soup which boils in the kettle, is called "soupe à choux,"—the staple of Jersey country diet. This soup, which is also known by the name of "soupe à la graisse," is made by boiling together. as much cabbage, lard, and

potatoes, as suffices for the family dinner. Sometimes, but rarely, a little meat it added; and sometimes, parsnips, or turnips, take the place of potatoes. This soup is the never failing dinner of the great mass of the country people of Jersey; and although tea for breakfast is now pretty universal, soupe à choux is still used at that meal by many. There is another soup, to which this soupe à choux occasionally yields,—conger-eel soup, which is considered rather a delicacy, and is not held contemptible even among the upper ranks. For my own part, I have found it sufficiently savoury to justify its reputation. It is made thus: to three or four pounds of eel, add three pints of water,—one of milk, one of green peas,—a halfpenny worth of sweet herbs, and a quarter of a pound of butter: boil all together for about half an hour.

Among the better class of farmers, there are occasional deviations from the "soupe à choux," or additions to it. About once a fortnight, a dish of corned or pickled pork, or salted fish, is admitted; and roasted apples or baked pears, are a frequent accompaniment. This diet costs

little: the lard, the cabbage, the milk, the apples, the pears, are all farm produce, and not valuable in the market; and the conger-eel at particular times, is extremely cheap and abundant. Milk, is scarcely at all used in a Jersey menage; it is all wanted for butter for the market, or for indoor consumption. In fact, a Jersey farmer lives upon that part of the produce of his land, which is the least valuable; and carries the rest to market. The apple pies, and gooseberry pies, which are so frequent in an English farm house, are almost unknown in Jersey. Roasted apples, and especially baked pears, which require no sugar, and which are always shaken off the trees in sufficient abundance for winter stock, are a good, and a cheap substitute. The baked pear, (especially the chaumontelle) is universally liked,—and is a common addition at tea, not only amongst the country people, but amongst the respectable tradesmen of the towns. The pears are merely put into a dish, with a very little water, and are sent to the oven. They are quite sweet enough without sugar; but taste flat.

Every Jersey family—I might almost say, of all ranks—use cider. Of course the farmer uses the produce of his own orchard; and all country people make their own bread, from their own flour. The bakings are for the most part, once a fortnight,—though some few bake weekly. I cannot speak highly of the bread, which is usually of two sorts, one whiter than the other.

The country people invariably drink tea, but take no supper; and at this meal, stewed pears are a common substitute for butter,—though it must be admitted, that butter is more freely used in a Jersey menage, than any other article of produce. In fact, excepting for tea and sugar,—and of the latter, no great quantity is required,—a Jersey farmer has no occasion to put his hand in his pocket: and it is a small property indeed, which does not afford a surplus beyond the value of the few articles which must be purchased at market. Neither is there much outlay in the articles of dress. Many of the habiliments both of the men and women are of worsted, which has been subjected to the knitting needle; and not only stockings, and shawls, but petticoats, and

even small clothes, are of this material,—the produce of domestic industry. Men's clothes too, are frequently fashioned at home,—though not universally: and it is a curious fact I have to mention, that the country tailors, are all women. A Jerseyman would consider the occupation of a tailor beneath him; and this trade is therefore, in the country, in the hands of the females. A female tailor receives 5d. per day.

Such, is a sketch of the everyday manner of living among the Jersey country people; and it will be at once seen, that it is in perfect accordance with the traits of character to which I have alluded. I am told that within the last ten years, there has been considerable improvement in the mode of life. Meat is more frequently seen in the farm house; and tea, has somewhat encroached upon the sovereignty of "soupe à la graisse." It must be admitted however, that even with these improvements, the diet is not a generous one; and suffers sadly, in a comparison with the huge sides of bacon, the new milk cheese, and the pitchers of ale, which disappear bofore the farm servants of our English counties.

There are some few great holiday exceptions, to the monotony of Jersey country life. Christmas, Easter, and New Year's Day, are the chief feast days of the island. Christmas time is indeed, a week of feasting and merrymaking. On these occasions, there is a family gathering, twenty or thirty perhaps, being assembled, including all who are related to the heads of a family, as far as cousinship. On these occasions the "soupe à choux" is discarded; fresh pork is substituted for its pickled relative: roast beef, such as would not disgrace the table of an English squire, takes its place: perhaps even the market is defrauded of its goose, and puddings even, "smoke upon the board." Mountains of cakes too accompany tea; and punch and hot wine, laugh for once at frugality. Eating and drinking, although the staple amusement, is not the only one. Cards and dominoes are introduced, and sous are freely sported; while the Christmas song, the laugh, and the jest, go round. Dancing, so universal on such occasions in England, is rare in Jersey. I have often enquired the cause of this. They say it is inconsistent with

the solemn origin of Christmas. But dancing is at no time, a very general recreation of the country people; and I suspect it is the prevalence of sectarianism in Jersey, that chiefly stands in the way of this pastime.

Easter is not only a season for feasting, but for new dresses; and a great fair which is then held at Gorey, affords an opportunity of displaying them. There is also a fair on St. John's day, in the parish of St. John; and upon this occasion, more than any other, dancing is one of the amusements. The most respectable Jersey farmers and their families, do not now frequent these fairs, which are indeed chiefly attended by townspeople.

When speaking of feasts and fairs, a few words may not be misplaced, respecting the personal appearance of the natives of Jersey. They are not, generally speaking, a good looking people. Of the stature and appearance of the men, a better test cannot be obtained, than the island militia; and certainly, after a review of the two or three thousand that compose this force, one must decide, that the race offers few examples of

fine, well grown, forms, or of handsome countenances; nor do I think the generality of the women afford any contrast. Sufficient reasons may be given for this; constant intermarriage will infallibly lead to a deterioration of the race. An ungenerous diet, will also have its effect: unwearied out-door labour is the enemy of beauty, and unfavourable to erectness of form: and to these must be added, want of sleep, which I look upon to be a distinguishing characteristic of the country people of Jersey. The English labourer is early in the fields,—but then he goes to bed betimes. The Jersey farmer, is yet earlier in the fields; but he is also late up. In most of the Jersey country houses, lights are seen in the windows at eleven; and in many, even towards midnighs. This little sleeping, cannot fail to have its effects both on the looks, and on the constitution.

In the dress of the country people, there is nothing very remarkable; nothing precisely national. All the women wear shawls, generally black, or grey; and the bonnets, are almost invariably black. To several enquiries which I

have made as to the reason of this predilection for so gloomy an apparel, I have been more than once answered, that it is convenient to have black clothes in case of deaths in a family,—which, in Jersey, does not mean, merely the members of a family resident in one house; but all who are connected, however remotely; and in a spot, where intermarriages are so frequent, and where attachment to the country prevents emigration, the occasions for mourning must necessarily be very frequent.

It is generally said, that the Jersey people are honest. This is a word however, of very wide signification. If by honest, be meant, that one is above stealing,—(and this is the general interpretation of the word in contradistinction to dishonest,—though far from Pope's meaning of "an honest man,") then, I should say, that the natives of Jersey are honest. In the cases of theft which come before the Court of Justice in Jersey, Jerseymen are scarcely ever implicated; the delinquencies which arise from dishonesty are almost invariably committed by English, Irish, or French; and the Jerseyman may certainly be

called, a trustworthy person. But I do not know, that in those minor and unpunishable deviations from perfect honesty which are found in men's dealings, one with another, the inhabitants of Jersey are entitled to claim any superiority over their neighbours. I would rather drive a bargain,—as the saying is,—with an Englishman, than with a Jerseyman; and among the market people, who everywhere, and especially in so small a community as Jersey, afford a fair sample of national character, there is quite as great a disposition to over-reach, as I have ever found in any part of Europe,—certainly greater than in France.

But I must not leave the country people, their character, and mode of life, without adverting to an usage peculiar to these islands,—one connected both with the domestic economy, and with the agriculture of the islands. I allude to the collection of sea-weed,—which is chiefly used as manure, but which is also employed as a substitute for coal and fire-wood.

This sea-weed is called in French, varech,—and in Jersey dialect "vraic;" and a busy time

is the vraicking season in Jersey. This season is fixed by the island legislature,—and is named twice a year, commencing generally about the 20th July,—and the 10th March; and continuing each time about ten days. I have already spoken of the beds of rocks that surround the island; and it is chiefly from these rocks, and islets, that the vraic is gathered. I shall afterwards, in the few observations I may have to make on agriculture, have occasion to speak of vraic as a manure; at present, I am only speaking of the collection of vraic, as an island usage, which is singularly striking to a stranger.

When the vraicking season begins, those whose families are not numerous enough to collect the needful supply, assist each other; and the vraicking parties, consisting of eight, ten, or twelve persons, sally forth betimes, from all parts of the island to their necessary, laborious, but apparently cheerful work. Although a time of labour, it is also a season of merriment: "vraicking cakes," made of flour, milk, and sugar, are plentifully partaken of,—and on the cart which accompanies the party to the sea-beach, is generally slung a

little cask of something to drink, and a suitable supply of eatables. Every individual is provided with a small scythe, to cut the weed from the rocks, and with strong leg and foot gear. The carts proceed as far as the tide will allow them; and boats, containing four or six persons, carry the vraickers to the more distant rocks, which are unapproachable in any other way.

It is truly a busy and a curious scene: at this season, at half tide, or low water, multitudes of carts and horses, boats, and vraickers, cover the beach, the rocks, and the water; and so anxious are the people to make the most of their limited time, that I have often seen horses swimming, and carts floating,—so unwilling are the vraickers to be driven from their spoil by the inexorable tide.

But this sea weed is not as I have said employed solely as manure; but is also used as fuel; and for this purpose, it is collected at other times than at the regular vraicking seasons,—not from the rocks indeed,—but from the sea beach; for of course some of the weed is constantly detaching itself from the rocks, and is borne to the shore by

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the tide. The collection of this sea weed, is a constant employment with those who live near the sea shore: and the produce of their labour is either used for fuel, or is sold to those who want it. At almost all times, men, women, and children,—but chiefly the two latter,—are to be seen at this employment; gathering, or spreading the weed out to dry: they use a rake, or three-pronged pitch fork; and a wheelbarrow, in which it is carried above high water mark to be dried. This is the universal fuel of the country; and it makes a hot, if not a cheerful fire. Coal is scarcely at all used; and only a very small quantity of wood along with the vraic; and this even, not universally. On feast days only, and family gatherings, a coal fire is lighted in the best parlour.

There are some ancient usages and superstitions peculiar to Jersey, some of which are altogether laid aside; though they are all fast falling into disuse. I have heard of a singular usage which did, and which, as some say, does still prevail in the parish of St. John. It is termed "faire braire les poëles," and consists in obtaining a large brass boiler,—partly filling it with water; and

encircling it with a covering of strong rushes: strings, also of rushes, are attached to it; and these being wetted, the persons who surround the cauldron, draw them rapidly through their hands, by which, a vibration, and an accompaniment of uncouth and inharmonious sounds, is produced. At the same time too, others blow through cow's horns, and swell the note of discord. This shows a low state of civilization; though doubtless, a arbarous custom may be maintained for some time after the intellect rejects it.

CHAPTER VI.

The upper classes in Jersey; condition, and character; the influence of party spirit, and its bitterness; society; distinctions; language; religious differences; formation of the upper class; the liberal professions.

I have hitherto been speaking of the Jersey country people, the lower and middle classes,—among whom also, I include a part of the town population. It remains to speak briefly of the upper classes in Jersey,—those, who would in England, occupy the middle station. I have already said, that there is a similitude in the manners of the upper classes of all countries; but that the insulated situation of Jersey, and several other causes, have preserved some strong national traits among all classes in Jersey. I should say, of the upper ranks, that they possess all the characteristic traits which I have enumerated, as belonging to the inferior classes,—only, in a milder form. It

would be absurd to expect generally, in an isolated community such as Jersey, those enlarged views, and that absolute freedom from prejudice, which may be looked for in larger communities. There is usually, in every small district, and especially in one distinguished by exclusive privileges, an overweening attachment to place, and to all that belongs to it, that is too apt to interfere with the free exercise of judgment, in distinguishing between good and evil. This is the origin of whatever defects may be observable in Jersey character. That blind attachment to country, and all that belongs to it, which, among the uneducated classes, is nearly allied to patriotism, and even political independence, becomes, among the higher ranks, a serious blemish, standing much in the way of improvement, and greatly impeding the progress of civilization. It is certain, that the number of Jerseymen who take any interest in what passes elsewhere than the island, is extremely limited. The proceedings of the British Legislature are far less interesting, than the proceedings of their own States. The procedure in a case before the Jersey Court of Justice,

is a far more engrossing topic, than would be, the impeachment of a king's minister: the politics of Europe at large, would have no chance, weighed in the scale against some local political contention; and if the same packet were expected to bring the decision of kings and nations, upon peace or war, or the disposal of crowns,—and also the decision upon an appeal to the Privy Council upon some insular dispute, the latter would be the subject of the first and most eager questions by the crowds assembled on the quay.

There is one thing which has greatly contributed to circumscribe the views of the people, and to foster the too exclusive insular interest. It is, the existence of a bitter party spirit. The whole inhabitants of Jersey are divided into two factions, calling themselves laurel and rose; and which, in their mutual animosity, and extreme blindness, resemble the Guelfs and Guibbelines of the middle ages. I may possibly have occasion to allude again to these parties, when I speak of the political constitution and privileges of the island. At present I would only observe, that the subjects upon which the animosity of

party is displayed, are necessarily local matters; and thus, a feverish interest is constantly kept up, respecting insular politics,—often in themselves, very unimportant; and which occupy the public attention, to the exclusion of matters which concern the great family of mankind.

It is utterly impossible, for any one unacquainted with Jersey, to form any idea of the length to which party spirit is carried there. It not only taints the fountains of public justice, but enters into the most private relations of life. A laurel, and a rose man, are as distinct, and have as little in common between them, as if they were men, not only of different countries, but of countries hostile to each other. The most admirable proposition, that wisdom and patriotism united, ever contrived, if emanating from one party, would be received with coolness,—or more probably with open hostility by the other. In private society too, the distinction is equally marked: families of different parties, do not mingle; and even tradesmen are in a considerable degree affected in their custom, by these distinctions. I have known laurel rigorously ex-

cluded from the chaplets which were among the destined rewards of young ladies at a public musical examination; and one hesitates even, before placing a rose bud in the bosom, or a laurel sprig among a lady's curls.

It may naturally be enquired, how independence of mind, for which I have given the people of Jersey credit, can be coexistent with this bitter, and undistinguishing party spirit? The answer is easy. The great mass of country people, and of the tradespeople of the towns also, are of one party; and in their tenacious adherence to that party, they believe, that they are defending their island privileges, which they allege, are constantly attacked by the opposite party,—consisting for the most part of the better educated and higher classes. Party spirit therefore with the great majority of the inhabitants of Jersey, is inseparable from the preservation of their insular privileges; and is therefore fostered by insular independence. Among that party again, which forms the minority of the inhabitants, but greatly the majority of the upper and educated classes, there is less sturdy independence of character. Na-

tional traits, as I have already said, appear amongst them, in a milder form. The mass of the people, incapable themselves, of accurate judgments in political matters, implicitly follow their leaders; believing implicitly, all the while, that they are fighting the battle of independence: but the party opposed to them, are capable of forming more accurate judgments; and in their equally blind obedience to leaders, their independence is no way concerned.

This party spirit, so contemptible in itself, and so perfectly unimportant to all excepting those who are possessed with it, deserves this notice only inasmuch as it materially influences the state of society; and acts as a dead weight upon the progress of civilization, and upon the march of improvement. It has crushed public spirit, which, unless amongst a very few, has no existence: for at all times, the petty triumph of party, is preferred to the public good.

It was in speaking of the too exclusive and engrossing interest which matters purely insular, possess, in the minds of Jerseymen, that I was led to speak of party spirit, as one great cause of

this. I would mention, as another, the universal attachment to clubs. Almost every Jerseyman in town, has his club There, every evening, questions of insular politics are discussed and commented upon ; and there, consequently, party spirit is inflamed, and the interest attaching to local politics, riveted.

There is, generally, among the upper classes in Jersey, a total apathy in all that regards literature, science, and the belles lettres. This might be expected from what I have already said. It is not likely that literature and the fine arts will be prized, where the affairs of the world at large, are disregarded. An attempt was made, some time ago, to establish a literary and scientific institution. It met however with the success which might have been expected ; and an exhibition of paintings, which was opened in the summer of 1832 under the auspices of that society, created little interest, and met with indifferent encouragement. That such a society was set on foot, however, and that an exhibition of the fine arts was attempted, prove, that there are some individuals in the island, to whom the refinements of society are not indifferent.

Distinctions in society, in Jersey, are more marked by party, than by station. I do not of course, mean to say, that all ranks mingle ; but there is no apparent line of demarcation in Jersey, as there is in Guernsey, between the old families, and those who have gained, and are still gaining money and consequence in trade. Wealth, in Jersey, levels other distinctions ; and in this, Jersey is rather in advance of the rest of the world. Aristocracy has no separate and exclusive claims ; or if it has, they are not admitted. What effect this has upon the tone of society, is a question. It would be impossible however in Jersey, for aristocracy to maintain an exclusive society. Few families have not been indebted to commerce ; and in an island, and amongst a people, decidedly commercial, trade acquires that importance, to which, from its great results, it is entitled ; and the station of those who follow it, competes successfully in public estimation, with that which is maintained by ancestral inheritance. There are not however, in Jersey, a great many wealthy people, as that term would be understood in England. Fortunes, generally speaking,

are moderate : and those who are really rich, are in a fair way of being richer ; for they do not maintain that external display, or those expensive establishments which they could well afford ; and which would be maintained by persons similarly circumstanced in England. I believe I may safely say, that nobody in Jersey, spends £1,200 per annum ; and that, with two or three exceptions, £800 per annum, is the extent of island expenditure. Few close carriages are kept,—and of the few who keep them, still fewer keep horses for their exclusive use. Neither is there a constant drain on expenditure from entertainments. Expensive dinners, are occasionally given ; and at particular seasons, family dinners are universal : but there is not as among the same class in England, a constant interchange of civilities. It is therefore impossible that large sums should be spent in Jersey ; more especially, when we consider the absence of all those artificial claims on expenditure, which are constantly arising in larger communities, together with the greater cheapness of many of the necessaries, and of all the luxuries of life.

The unsettled state of language in Jersey, must be admitted to be a great obstacle to the refinements of civilization. The use of a pure language as one universal medium of communication, offers to the moral and intellectual condition of a people, as great a facility for improvement, as rail roads, and steam, offer to commerce. But this medium, Jersey has not yet the advantage of. The universal language is still a barbarous dialect. French, though the language of the Court proceedings, and of the Legistature, is not in common use even among the upper ranks; nay, the use of it, is even looked upon as affectation; and although the English language be sufficiently comprehended for the purposes of intercourse; and is most usually spoken in the best mixed society; it is certainly not understood by many, in its purity. The constant use of a dialect, necessarily induces a distaste for any other purer tongues. Their beauties are not, and cannot be appreciated; and thus, an effectual barrier is opposed to that refinement, which is the sure result of the knowledge and appreciation of the productions which belong to every perfected language. This disad-

vantage however, is gradually disappearing: and with another generation will probably be no longer felt. Children are now universally taught English; and amongst the young, there is an evident preference of English. The constant intercourse of the tradespeople too, with the English residents; and the considerable sprinkling of English residents in Jersey society, have also their effect; and it is probable, that in twenty years more, English will be the language of the Legislature, the Judicature, and the people.

I have as yet, said nothing of religious feeling and profession in Jersey. Although there are but few catholics in the island, the Diocese of Winchester does not hold all the population in its embrace. Methodists, independents, and baptists, comprehend a large proportion of the inhabitants, especially, of the lower classes, and of the country people; and the divisions in the bosom of the church, are scarcely less marked, than those which exist between the different sects, and the church from which they have separated.

The observance of the sabbath is strictly maintained in Jersey; and the inhabitants generally,

may be designated, a church-going population. Evangelical doctrines, are here, as elsewhere, the most popular; and calvinistic principles are on the advance. There is a large and influential class of churchmen in Jersey, whom many would sneeringly call saints,—but who, in the exercise of practical piety, deserve rather, the appellation of christians.

The upper classes of Jersey, consist of those who derive their incomes from land, or other property, many of whom, are members of the legislative, or judicial bodies; of the larger merchants and shipowners; of members of the liberal professions; and of those who hold official situations. These are not all of one grade, and one circle in society; but all may be properly included among the upper ranks. Having mentioned the learned professions, I may observe, that they are not in an enviable state,—barely affording a return for the expenses of education. In the medical profession, fees are on a miserably low scale; a full practice, scarcely affording a competency. Old usages however, are so greatly prized in Jersey, that fees are likely for some time to remain stationary.

CHAPTER VII.

Composition of the resident society; position of the native, and the resident society; mode of life of the residents; Jersey as a place of residence; markets, and prices of provisions; house rent; incidental expenditure; enumeration of other advantages, as a residence; disadvantages; comparison of Jersey as a residence, with the principal continental resorts.

It is certain, that there is no colony, or dependency of Britain, in which there are so many resident English, as Jersey,—meaning by the term, those who reside in a place, without tie or employment: and, with the exception of some few great cities, Paris, Rome, Brussels, and Florence, I believe Jersey contains more resident English, than any place abroad. And indeed, in those cities, a great portion of the English may be rather called a visiting, than a resident population. When I visited Lausanne three years ago, there were about four hundred resident English,—in

the same year, at Tours, I gathered, that there might be about three hundred more. It is needless to enumerate other places, because these are the two favourite resorts of our emigrating countrymen, and contain a much larger resident English population than Pau; Montpelier; Berne; Caen; Blois; St. Malo; Geneva; Sienna, or Pesa,—which, I think, include almost all the spots much frequented by the English. As nearly as I have been able to ascertain, the whole number of English residents in Jersey, amounts to, at least, three thousand, exclusive of the tradespeople settled in the island. Of this number, at least three-fourths consist of officers on the half-pay of the army and navy, and their families: the remainder, is made up of individuals, who, either with large families to educate, or with limited incomes, find economy an object; and including also, some few, who are attracted to the island by the advantages of its climate. I do not include that merely migratory summer population, which glances at Jersey, on the way to France, or in a short excursion from England.

The English society of Jersey, is quite distinct

from the native society: I do not say that they never mingle; but the intercourse is limited, and unfrequent. At a large party, given by a Jersey family, a few English will generally be seen; and at an English party, there is usually a slight sprinkling of native inhabitants; but there is far from being any general intercourse. Those only indeed, who have brought letters of introduction to Jersey families; or, who maintain an establishment superior to their neighbours, receive the civilities of the island families; and these civilities are for the most part confined to a formal dinner; or a rare invitation to a large evening party.

Many of the English complain of want of hospitality on the part of the native families; of a deficiency in those attentions, which, as strangers, they think they had reason to expect: but I think they complain unjustly. It is certainly not to be expected, that the respectable Jersey families should voluntarily make the acquaintance of the English residents indiscriminately; and if those who carry introductions do not receive all the attention which similar letters would receive

in England, all that can be said is, that every place has its usages; and the English have no more reason to complain of the exercise of hospitality in Jersey, than of the exercise of that virtue in most of the Continental countries which are much frequented; and every one who has travelled much, knows, that to the generality of travellers, French or Italian hospitality, is not English hospitality. The mere fact that Jersey derives advantage from the English who spend their money in it, is no good reason for expecting unwonted civilities. Strangers seek Jersey for their own interest; and receive, in the greater command over the luxuries of life with a limited income, the only return they had any right to expect. I will admit however, that there is not a perfectly cordial feeling between the natives and the residents: the tradespeople indeed, and others who owe almost their existence to the English residents, would be fools not to express the utmost respect for them, and not to rejoice in their neighbourhood. But there is nevertheless a very different feeling on the part of the natives, towards the residents, and towards each other.

Towards the British government, and towards Britain as a nation, there is no want of attachment in Jersey: this may arise chiefly from the respect which has been paid to the privileges of the island, and the greater advantages which Jersey derives from its connexion with Britain, than a connexion with any other power could bestow upon it. I think however, this attachment to Britain, is somewhat of an abstraction. But, to return to the English society.

The residents, owing to their great numbers, are quite independent of Jersey society; and are certainly disposed to keep up much good fellowship amongst themselves. I scarcely think there is a spot in Europe, where, among the same number, there is such constant interchange of visits. One very sufficient reason may be given for the familiarity of intercourse maintained among the English residents. Three-fourths, at least, of the whole number, are naval and military men, who have served campaigns together; and find pleasure in renewing their acquaintance and fighting their battles over again. And even those who have not been messmates, or shipmates,

have many subjects of conversation, in common; and their information, recollections, and even prospects, run much in the same channel. At an English party in Jersey, almost every one is Captain, or Major; and some few, Colonel.

But although there be a very general, and familiar intercourse, amongst the residents, they have naturally formed themselves into circles; those composing the circles, differing only, in their pecuniary means. Some only give and take dinners; others go to, and receive, evening parties; and others again, whose inclination, or means, will not permit either of these modes of social intercourse, form a still quieter circle, and adopt a still less expensive mode of enjoying each other's society. Every one therefore finds a circle suited to his circumstances. It must be admitted, that unless to those who are fond of cards,—the universal amusement,—the round of visiting is somewhat monotonous. One sees always the same faces; and in a spot so circumscribed as Jersey, conversation cannot have great novelty.

The favourite summer amusement, is the pic-

nic; and for the enjoyment of this, Jersey is well calculated: it has so many secluded bays, and pleasant nooks: and scarcely a summer day passes, on which there are not several pic-nic parties to different parts of the island.

But in speaking of the resident English population of Jersey, it is natural to enquire what are the attractions which Jersey presents; and what are the advantages over England which it possesses? for when we see it so extensively colonized, we may conclude, that it posseses some that are exclusive. The foremost of these, is unquestionably, the greater cheapness of living.

The beef and mutton with which the Jersey market is supplied, is almost wholly French; and although it is not, in general, to be compared with the best beef and mutton in the English markets, neither is it to be complained of. I have seen, about Christmas time, beef, that would not have disgraced any market. Veal and lamb, but especially veal, are to be found occasionally, quite equal to the same articles in the English markets. The supply, however, of the best meat, is always (excepting about Christmas) mode-

rate. The average price of all kinds of butchers meat, may be stated at 6d. per lb. of 17½ oz. The best cuts of veal, may perhaps average a half-penny more. Pork is excellent, and in the best season, decidedly superior to any I have tasted in England. There is an immense consumption of it during the winter months, in Jersey, and it generally sells about 5d. per lb.

The poultry market is pretty well supplied, especially with geese. Fowls are sold at about 2s. 6d. a couple; a well-sized Turkey may be bought for from 3s. to 5s.; a good goose for 2s. 6d., and ducks at about 1s. 6d. a pair. So far, it will be observed, Jersey has very little the advantage over very many of the English provincial towns; and but a moderate advantage over the metropolis.

Let us now come to what is usually called country farm produce.

Jersey butter has the reputation of being excellent. This character, however, is not without exceptions; and I do not, for my own part, look upon it, as at all superior to that produced from the best English daries. In the price of butter,

Jersey has a decided advantage over London, and some advantage over most parts of England. This is sufficiently proved by the large export of butter, which can bear the expense of carriage, and compete in the hands of the dealer, with the dairies of Hampshire and Dorsetshire. The average price of butter during the summer months,—that is, from April to October, may be stated at 10d., and during the rest of the year, it is about 3d. higher. Eggs, during the summer months, are 5d. per dozen, and, during the winter months, from 7d. to 1s. Milk is 2d. per quart, and it is generally excellent.

Let it be kept in mind, that all these prices are calculated in Jersey currency; that one shilling English, is thirteen pence, Jersey. If, for example, you purchase one pound of meat at 6½d., the sixpence-halfpenny is paid by an English sixpence; or if the price be 6d. you receive a halfpenny back.

During the winter season, there is a separate poultry market, which is entirely stocked with French produce. Capons are then often very plentiful, and excellent; and may be bought of a

very large size, at 2s. 3d. Those of my readers who know what a fine French capon is, will not think this an exorbitant price. At this season also, there are abundance of French partridges, woodcocks, snipes, and hares. Partridges are sold at about 2s. 6d. a brace; woodcocks generally a little higher; a fine hare costs from 2s. 6d. to 3s. The supply of game however, is very irregular. A continuance of strong northerly winds may keep the market empty for weeks; and if then, the wind suddenly shifts to the south, capons and game may be had for half nothing. Moor game is never seen in the Jersey market.

The vegetable and fruit market is most varied and abundant. With the exception of the market of Thoulouse, which I take to be the very best for country produce in Europe, I do not remember to have seen a better than that of Jersey. It is difficult to particularize the prices of vegetables. I should say, however, generally, that they are not greatly lower, than in the most abundant English markets. In the fruit market, all the English out-door fruits are found; with some, that belong to more southern countries. The

common fruits,—such as apples, pears, plums, aud the berry tribe, are scarcely cheaper than they can be bought in Covent Garden ; and some of them not so cheap, as in the best fruit counties in England. Strawberries are certainly dearer. Peaches, however, I think are more abundant, and cheaper, than they are in any part England. But those fruits which are not forced in Jersey, as they are in England, are of course cheaper. Good out-door grapes,—which, if the season be good, are very palatable, are sold at about 6d. per lb. : and the finest hot house grapes are not more than 1s. Melons of the best species, and of a size that would cost 5s. or 6s. in Covent Garden, may be purchased for from 8d. to 1s. 6d. French fruit is sometimes to be had very cheap,—particularly cherries: but as the excellence of a cherry depends altogether upon its freshness, those which have been gathered in France, are worth little.

The fish market of Jersey is very inferior to what might be expected ; it is neither regularly abundant, nor remarkable for its cheapness. The Jersey fishermen, are not fishermen solely; they

have generally some property adjoining the sea; and do not always find it convenient to launch their boats. The consequence is, that the market is neither regularly nor abundantly supplied. The fish commonly brought to market, are whiting, sole, plaice, bass, grey and red mullet, john dorey, mackrel, gar,—a fish resembling an eel; and several inferior kinds of fish, which are not worth naming. The conger eel is also very common; and most kinds of shell fish are very abundant and good. Turbot is rarely seen; salmon, still more rarely; haddock, never; cod, very unfrequently; and fresh herring, scarcely ever in a palatable state.

The price of fish varies so greatly, that it is difficult to state any average price. I may say, however, that excepting the shell fish, none of them are so cheap as the same, or equally good fish cost in the fishy English seaports. Mullet and bass, are perhaps, cheaper in Jersey; but then the haddock, cod, and herring of the English markets are more than an equivalent. The largest and finest lobsters may be bought for a shilling; and one may have as many fine prawns for breakfast, as one can eat, for twopence.

So far, it will be seen that Jersey has no advantage over any of the more abundant English counties; and that excepting in the article of butter, the advantage over even the metropolis, is small. It is to excisable commodities we must look, for the advantage which Jersey possesses in point of cheapness. Tea, that in England would cost from 6s. to 8s., may be purchased in Jersey at from 3s. 4d. to 4s. or 4s. 4d. The best gunpowder tea costs 6s. 6d. Loaf sugar, such as would cost in London 10d., and in the country 11d., may be bought in Jersey for 6d. Raw sugars are scarcely more than half their price in England. Coffee is not more than two-thirds of its price in England. Rice is 3d. per lb.; currants 4d.; raisins for puddings about the same. These are the articles of foreign and colonial produce the most in use; but in all others of less consumption, such as spices, oil, olives, dried fruits, &c., the price is proportionately low. In this large class of articles then, the produce of foreign countries, which may now be almost all classed amongst the necessaries of life, Jersey has a decided advantage; and from this enume-

ration, we have a direct illustration of the effects of taxation, and of the extent to which it operates, in depressing the condition of a people.

But it yet remains, to notice that large class of taxed commodities, which are more properly termed luxuries: I mean, wines and spirit. In the low price of these, Jersey will compete with any place in the world: for although, in the wine countries, the superior wines may be drunk for next to nothing in the districts which produce them, Jersey has the command of all wines duty free; and consequently, the vintages of France, Spain, and Portugal, are all, proportionably low-priced. That there is a great deal of bad wine in Jersey, is true; but so there is in England; and so there is, in the countries which produce wines. I have drunk vile Moselle at Luxembourgh; villainous Hermitage on the Rhone; and wretched Sherry in Cadiz. But, to be more minute,—Port, from two to eight years old, and of good quality, is from 22s. 6d. to 25s. per dozen; and inferior Port may be purchased at 15s. Sherries, the same prices as Port. Bucellas 14s. Marsala 12s. to 14s. Vidonia 20s. Mountain

20. Tent 27s. 6d. East India Madeira 24s. Vin Ordinaire 6s. to 10s. Light Clarets from 20s. to 30s. First growths of best Clarets 45s. to 50s. Côte Rotie 45s. to 48s. St. George 12s. Burgundy, Chambertin, 60s. Macon 25s. Vin de Grave, Barsac and Sauterne from 15s. to 25s. Champagne 50s. to 60s. Rhenish 17s. 6d. Hocks 40s. to 50s. All of these prices are stated in Jersey currency; consequently, 1s. 8d. must be deducted from every £1.

The catalogue of Spirits is still more imposing. Cognac, such as is rarely to be met with in England, costs 7s. per gallon; Hollands, from 3s. 6d. per gallon, to 1s. a bottle. Jamaica Rum 1s. to 1s. 4d. per bottle. Spirits, of inferior quality, but not inferior to what is usually retailed in England, may be had at greatly lower prices. One may therefore enjoy a glass of Rum and water, sugar included, for one penny; and I am not sure that a few drops of lemon juice might not be squeezed into the bargain. A man may comfort himself with a pint of old Port for 11d.; or drain his bottle of St. George,—rather a racy wine, for the same money; or of Marsala,—better than it is found in England, for one shilling.

I have omitted in my enumeration, the important article of bread, the best quality of which, sells at 2d. per pound, and common household bread of an excellent quality at 1½d.

There still remains to be noticed, one important item of expenditure,—house rent; and here, Jersey must suffer considerably, in a comparison with England. A house, such as in most parts of England (of course excluding the metropolis, and the best situations in the large towns) would be let for £30, would certainly cost £40 in Jersey; and there are scarcely, in Jersey, any of those small, though comfortable cottages with gardens, which, in the cheaper and more remote English counties are usually rented from £18 to £25. A comfortable, and respectable and moderate sized house, in a good situation, and with a little garden ground, cannot be had in Jersey under from £35 to £40. The rent of a house furnished, is generally nearly double the rent unfurnished. It must be recollected, that when rent is paid in Jersey, all is paid. There are no taxes, and scarcely any rates. This however is but a trifling advantage over the smaller de-

scription of houses in England, not situated in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, or any of the large towns: and in any comparison between Jersey and England, as residences, it is evident that the metropolis must be excluded; because, if expenses there, are greater, so are the agremens; and no one, whose object is economy, thinks of pitching upon the metropolis as a residence.

In one respect, Jersey has an advantage over any part of England, to those who mean to reside permanently in it, and to furnish a house. Furniture may be purchased greatly cheaper. Jersey made furniture can of course be sold at a low rate comparatively with England; since neither mahogany, nor any other foreign timber pays any duty; and since also, labour is considerably cheaper. Other more ornamental articles of furniture, are also cheaper than in England, owing to the same causes,—such as mirrors, French papers, and metals.

Servants' wages are about the same in Jersey, as in England, and wearing apparel, is, generally speaking, dearer than it is in England.

I have now I think, exhausted that important

subject,—expense of living. But I have still something farther to say, on the advantages and disadvantages of Jersey, as a place of residence. The advantages yet to be enumerated, are indeed minor, to that important one upon which I have enlarged: still, they must not be omitted. The most important of these, is climate: but, as this has already been spoken of, and will afterwards, in connexion with disease, receive a more lengthened notice, I at present only mention it, without enlarging upon it.

The geographical position of Jersey, may be named as an advantage. Situated as it is, within fifteen hours' sail of England, and within four or five hours' sail of France, it offers greater convenience for the resident, than any other resort with which I am acquainted. Letters put into the post-office in London, on Tuesday or Friday evening, are delivered in Jersey, on Thursday and Sunday morning. There are communications by steam, twice a week to Southampton, as well as to Weymouth; and still oftener to the French ports of St. Malo and Granville: so that excursions may be varied to different parts of England

and France, to the Isle of Wight, and to Guernsey; and all, at a very moderate expense.

It is another advantage, that, in Jersey, one lives under the protection of the British government; though under the exclusive laws of Jersey. The revolutions, and civil commotions, which, in foreign countries, have driven hundreds from their adopted homes, and have even endangered their lives and their property, could never be more than matters of curiosity in Jersey, and few will deny, that the British government is a good government to live under, to those who can enjoy its blessings, exempt from the evils by which these are accompanied,—taxation, and wide-spread pauperism.

Such, is a summary of the advantages, which Jersey possesses as a residence.

The chief disadvantage, under which Jersey lies, is the total want of amusements. There are no field-sports; there is no angling. There is a theatre indeed; and there are winter assemblies: but the latter are few in number; and not particularly attractive; and as for the former, there is so little encouragement given to the drama in

Jersey, that the company is most commonly indifferent. The native inhabitants do not sufficiently understand the English language, to relish English drama; and the residents are not rich enough to afford of themselves, sufficient encouragement to the theatre. It must also be admitted, that naval and military men, are not those amongst whom a taste for the drama is likely to be found. Companies of French actors, however, are tolerably well supported by the native inhabitants.

Of good music, there is even a still greater dearth. The native inhabitants do not encourage music; and the residents have come to Jersey to economize. They prefer spending their surplus income in seeing their friends at home and abroad, —and in country parties, to frequenting public amusements. The consequence is, that with the want of musical taste, and the necessity for economy, concerts fare ill in Jersey. Fashion may fill a room once; but I question if Pasta and Malibran together, could twice collect £70 in Jersey. The residents cannot be blamed for not doing that, which they did not come to Jersey to

do; and the details of a former chapter, will have sufficiently accounted for the want of interest in, and love of the fine arts, shown by the native inhabitants. Attempts have been made to concentrate the musical talent of the island, in a club: but like every thing else in Jersey, which requires co-operation, and implies public spirit, the attempt has been crowned with very indifferent success.

I ought to have mentioned, that the disposition towards puritanism, which I have already said, is prevalent in Jersey, is inimical to the success of theatrical entertainments,—and in some degree, to all public amusements. Horse races, which have been instituted two years, are of course, particularly obnoxious to the religious classes; and their success has only been moderate.

I think I have stated tolerably fairly, the advantages and disadvantages of Jersey, as a residence; and I shall conclude this chapter with a brief comparison between Jersey in this respect, and the principal resorts of the English on the Continent.

In point of expense, Jersey differs very

little from most of these. Foreign and colonial produce is dearer on all parts of the Continent; but on the other hand, house rent is higher in Jersey, than in any place on the Continent frequented by the English,—excepting Tours. In the smaller English resorts,—petty towns and villages, for example, on the coast of Normandy and Brittany,—all the necessaries, and many of the luxuries of life, are greatly cheaper than they are in Jersey. But except cheapness, these spots have nothing to recommend them.

As for agremens, there is no doubt that all the large cities resorted to by the English, have a great advantage over Jersey; and in the state of society also, they will fully bear a comparison with it. The theatres, the promenades, the spectacles, the galleries, of Paris, Florence, or even Brussels, offer resourses, which may be sought for in vain in Jersey. Jersey does not lie under any disadvantage in comparison with the smaller resorts. It is true that the monotony of Pau, may be broken by an excursion to Bagnères de Bigorre, which all the world has heard of,—or to the village of Beiretz, in the bay of Biscay, which

very few have heard of,—but which is nevertheless one of the most charming, and coolest of retreats : and the beautiful tranquillity of Lausanne may be interrupted by a ramble among the Swiss mountains,—or an excursion on Lake Leman : but these resources, are as expensive, and not so full of variety, as those which Jersey offers, in excursions to London, and Paris : and in Jersey, there is greater room for selection in society, than in those places where the more limited number of residents, scarcely admits of different circles,—or indeed, of choice. The English society of Jersey, is not indeed unexceptionable ; nor is it equal, in either polish, or intellect, to an equally large circle in England : but good breeding, and gentlemanly feeling, are always to be found among those whose profession has been arms ; and among the hundreds of residents in Jersey, there is no difficulty in falling into a circle from which the exceptionable are excluded.

In point of climate, Jersey takes a medium rank ; I do not speak of it, as a resort of invalids; but of those who merely desire fine weather, and neither an excess of heat or cold,

Paris, Caen, Tours, Paw, Lausanne, are hotter in summer, and colder in winter, than Jersey. Brussels and Boulogne sur mer, are every way inferior to it in climate. Florence, Nice, and Pisa, have superior winters; but are too hot in summer: so that Jersey does not appear to suffer by a comparison.

But there is one advantage which Jersey possesses, over all continental places. It is more English. English comfort is better understood in it. English ways, more common. Houses are English in their structure and conveniences: one can have closed shutters, a snug room, and a coal fire. Above all, the English language, although not the language of the island, is sufficiently understood to make the use of a foreign language unnecessary. And let me add, that however many years, an Englishman remains abroad, he never conquers the desire to return to his native country. He cannot endure for ever, the feeling that he is a foreigner; and the consciousness, that he must lay his bones in a foreign land. The murmur of English voices comes to his ear; he recals the appearance of an English

town, an English pepulation, and the aspect of an English landscape; and while fancy places before him, the village, and the village church, and the church-yard,—with its many tombs, and tall sheltering trees,—he feels, that he would rather be buried there; and that his own countrymen might pause before his tomb, and English children play and prattle upon his grave. Yes, —let his sojourn be beautiful as it may, he feels that he is a stranger; and that not in life only, but in death also, he has a home,—a home in his native land. But these feelings are scarcely experienced in Jersey. There is little to remind an Englishman of his absence from his country. He scarcely feels himself a stranger: and is therefore spared that restlessness which would infallibly come upon him, sooner or later, in a foreign land.

CHAPTER VIII.

Civil government. The court of Judicature; and its constitution; election of Judges; party spirit and its results. The States, or Legislative body, and its constitution; the Governor and his emoluments; the Lieutenant-Governor; the island militia; value of Jersey. Finance. The Clergy. Education and public institutions; the state of the public press in Jersey.

It will have been gathered from the contents of a former chapter, that the inhabitants of Jersey regard their political constitution with no small affection; and indeed, so true is this, that reform and change, are as unpopular words in Jersey, as they are popular elsewhere. So slow is the march of opinion in Jersey, that the political constitution which pleased the islanders in the days of king John, please them still; and, as regards the mass of the people, there is yet no dawn of that crisis, which ever arrives, where intellect advances, and political institutions stand still.

I shall briefly state what is the constitution of Jersey; in the hope, that by making its evils and absurdities more generally known, one step may be made towards amendment.

The legislative power in Jersey, resides in an assembly called the States; but in order to understand the constitution of this assembly, it is necessary that I should speak of the judicial body.

The Royal Court, as it is called, consists of a president, termed the bailly of Jersey, who is appointed by the king; and twelve judges, who are elected for life, by the people;—all heads of families, paying parochial rates, being entitled to vote; so that, in fact, the judges are elected by almost universal suffrage. This privilege of electing their judges, the people esteem as their highest privilege,—but which is, on the contrary, the source of incalculable evil. I have already mentioned the existence of party spirit in the island; and at no time does party run so high, as at the election of a judge. Upon these occasions, the whole island is in a ferment: to vote, is to stamp a man of one party or another: I have known respectable tradesmen, who feared

the consequences of a vote, make an excuse for leaving the island; and I have known others, swallow medicine to make themselves incapable of attending, to give their suffrage. Firing of guns, waving of banners, and all the loudest and most unequivocal expressions of triumph, attend the result of an election; and in fact, the judge is borne into the seat of justice on the shoulders of a party.

It is scarcely necessary I think, for me, to enlarge upon the bad effects of this system. The bench, with one or two exceptions, is composed of the most furious partizans; the court of justice is too often the arena for party feuds; and it is not impossible by glancing the eye along the bench, and knowing who are the parties to a suit, to guess with tolerable accuracy, what will be the issue.

But this is not the only evil of the system. No qualification is necessary for being elected to the office of judge. A farmer, a ship owner, a merchant,—any body, may be seated on the bench by the electors. No previous acquaintance with law or usage is required; no preparatory educa-

tion,—no education of any kind requisite. The electors, generally utterly uneducated themselves, —and influenced by the most violent party spirit, cannot be expected to fix upon the best qualified individuals; and thus, the bench is alike disqualified by party feeling, and by ignorance, from exercising that sound and unbiassed judgment, which alone gives respectability to a court of justice.

An attempt has recently been made on the part of some of the upper classes, by way of petition to the Privy Council, to obtain a change in the constitution of the bench; and a proposition has also been made in the legislative body, for important alterations in the constitution of the island; but this proposition still vests in the people, the power of electing their judges. It may perhaps be doubted, whether in so small a community as Jersey, where relationship, or connexion of one kind or other, is so universal, Jerseymen be the most proper persons to fill the judicial office: but it is at all events certain, that so long as the right of electing the judges is vested in the people, not only will the bench be defective in all

that constitutes a perfect judicature; but that party spirit will be encouraged,—which, at the same time that it poisons the fountains of justice, —crushes public spirit,—cripples legislation,— and offers an impassable obstacle to the progress of civilization.

I have no intention of enlarging on the jurisdiction of the Royal Court. It has the power of disposing of all cases civil and criminal, including the military code as regards the militia; and from the full court, an appeal lies to the Privy Council. In criminal cases, juries decide; and the accused has many advantages. He is allowed counsel; and from the petty jury which first sits on his case, and which decides by a majority of voices, he has an appeal to a grand jury, consisting of twenty-four; of which number, five voices only, are sufficient to acquit him of the charge.

The jury in civil causes, has not yet made its way to Jersey; and for the same reason that I doubt the possibility of perfect impartiality among judges selected from so limited a community, where intermarriages are so common,—where no

man is a stranger to another, and where the attachments to party are so strong, and so universal,—I also doubt, whether the introduction of juries in civil causes would be productive of much advantage. Should the administration of justice ever be vested in English judges, I have no hesitation in saying, that the introduction of Jersey juries, would be impolitic. The same objections which apply to juries in civil causes, is not applicable to criminal cases. In these latter, men are less likely to be influenced by private motives; or if they be, the accused will most probably be a gainer: and besides, it very rarely happens, that Jerseymen are the subjects of criminal prosecutions. Delinquencies are almost always committed by strangers.

Attached to the Royal Court, are the two king's officers,—the procureur du roi, and the king's advocate, who are appointed by the king; several other officers, and six advocates, who are in the nomination of the bailly,—an absurd, and unjust nomination, both as regards the public service, and the manner of appointment. There ought to be no restriction upon the bar, excepting

that which depends upon competency; and yet, in this important particular, there is at present, no regulation. No course of education is necessary; no examination is required; all is left to the judgment of the bailly,—who, possessed of such powers, and presiding over a court composed of men without legal education, ought to be a man possessed of many acquirements; and distinguished by a sound and discriminating judgment. It is but just to add, that there are some gentlemen now at the bar, distinguished for their acquirements; and every way competent to the discharge of their duties.

An enumeration of the laws of Jersey, does not come within the scope of this work. I may merely state, that they are founded on the ancient Norman code; and are swelled by municipal and local usages; by royal ordinances; acts of the States, confirmed by the king; and by orders in council, registred in the island.

I am now prepared to speak of the constitution of the States.

The legislative body, is composed of thirty-six members, besides the governor and the bailly,

consisting of: 1. The twelve judges, who being judges for life, are legislators for life; 2. The rectors of the twelve parishes, nominated (with the exception of the dean) by the governor, also legislators for life. 3. The twelve constables of the twelve parishes, elected by the people triennially. The king's officers and the viscomte, have also seats in the States; and may speak, but cannot vote.

It is scarcely possible to conceive a more faulty constitution of a legislative assembly than this. Here we have men framing laws, and executing them,—judges to day, legislators to-morrow: here we have a legislative body which is not a representative assembly,—nor a responsible assembly; since one-third of the number, the clergy, are nominated by the governor: and since two-thirds—both the twelve judges and the twelve clergy, are legislators for life, and are therefore never called upon to account for their stewardship. Only one-third part of the legislative assembly is representative and responsible,—the twelve constables, who are chosen triennially in each parish, by the same electors who choose the jurats; and who are in fact the heads of the police

of each parish, and have under them, sundry inferior officers and deputies.

The States possess the powers (under certain limitations) which belong to any legislative body. They originate and pass laws; raise funds for the public service; enact appropriations of the revenue; and preside generally, over the well-being of the island. This assembly however, cannot be convened without the assent of the governor,—who has also a veto on its deliberations, for the exercise of which powers, however, he is accountable to the king in council; and all acts passed by the States, if meant to continue in force more than three years, require the king's assent.

The goverment of Jersey, is, as the reader probably knows, a sinecure office, at present held by Lord Beresford; and which, I believe I am warranted in believing, will not much longer be suffered to exist. The whole crown revenue of the island is, with certain deductions, appropriated to the governor, and consists of the corn tithes of ten of the parishes.

As the disposal of this revenue has lately been brought under notice, by a parliamentary com-

mission, I will shortly state its amount, and deductions. The tables before me, have reference to the revenue received and appropriated, of 1818, since which year, the amount has decreased about £300.

Amount of Wheat, Rye, Beans, Barley and Oat rents	£711	11	6½
Tithes	1414	11	6
Lands	446	7	5½
Fines	57	14	4½
Money Rents	32	7	4½
Tavern Licenses	13	15	0
Successions	75	15	11½
Renunciations	88	12	4½
	£2840	12	7

This amount was appropriated as follows:

Salary of the Bailiff	£300	0	0
,, of the King's Procureur	100	0	0
,, of the King's Advocate	50	0	0
,, of the Greffier of the Royal Court	45	0	0
,, of the Vicomte	100	0	0
,, of the Officers of the Lower Fief Courts	23	7	7
,, of His Majesty's two Receivers	300	0	0
,, of the Keeper of the Court House	15	0	0
Annual subscription of the Governor for prizes for boys in the Militia	20	0	0
Carried over	£953	7	7

Brought over.....	£953	7	7
Maintenance of Jail Prisoners, and Jail account	206	0	0
Repairs to the Court House.....	69	5	6
Coroner's Inquests.....	21	0	0
Governor's Subscription to the Public School.....	10	10	0
Dinners to the Court of Heritage..	99	11	7
Do. to the Inspectors of Roads.	34	9	9½
Rents due by the King.....	8	19	3
Covering and repairing the Governor's Pew.....	8	18	6
Amount transmitted to the Governor	1428	10	4½
	£2840	12	7

It is evident that the charges upon the crown revenue will vary from year to year. The amount of the revenue also varies. The tithes will fluctuate according to the value of wheat, and the quantity sown. The governor has also the king's share of all contraband and prohibited goods, and of all fines levied in consequence; and on seizures of tea, he receives two-thirds of the value, after deducting the expenses. In the year to which the table I have given refers, there does not appear to have been any seizures. In a subsequent year, 1828, I see £119 for seizures.

In the proposed abolition of the sinecure to which the surplus crown revenue is appropriated,

would it not be advisable for the government to draw in the first instance, the whole crown revenue of the island; and take upon itself the payment of the salaries, and other charges? There is little that could be deducted from these items, unless it be the dinners, and the repairs to the court house,—the latter of which might be paid from the island revenue or "impôt,"—a small tax on the import of wines and spirits, of which I shall afterwards speak.

At present, and for some considerable time past, the duties of the governor have been vested in a lieutenant-governor, who is named by the king. Although, as the representative of the British government,—and in some degree, of the king, this officer possesses some civil power, such as having a negative voice in the States, and acting in some emergencies, for the king's government, his office is chiefly a military one; and consists in commanding the whole troops both regular and militia in the island, and in exercising the usual authority and privileges vested in a commander in chief.

The lieutenant-governor receives a small por-

tion of crown revenue, different from, and not included in, that drawn by the governor. Some items of this revenue are curious, and illustrate well, the rapacity of the priests in former times. He is entitled to 197 capons; 263 fowls; 217 chickens; 33 geese; 684 eggs; 97 loaves of bread, and 2 hares. These are apportioned among the different parishes, and may either be paid in kind, or in money: when compounded for, a capon is charged at 2s. 1d.; a fowl at 1s. 3d.; two chickens, at 1s. 3d.; a goose at 1s. 10½d.; eggs at 7½d. per dozen; a loaf of bread at 1¼d.; 2 hares at 1s. 3d. The whole amounts to about £48. Besides these articles the lieutenant-governor is entitled to the rent of some houses, of a grass meadow, of the king's warren, and to an allowance for signing the registers of vessels, and for passes to vessels for clearing outwards. These altogether, supposing the houses and lands let, do not much exceed £160.

The differences, which unhappily have lately arisen in the island, between the lieutenant-governor, and the legislative assembly, seem to show that the powers of the lieutenant-governor, are

not sufficiently defined; and indeed, lead to the conclusion, that military men are not the best individuals to fill offices, the duties of which are partly civil; and that in the government of a colony or dependency, it would perhaps be wise, to separate altogether, the military, from the civil authority. With regard to Jersey, its government requires peculiar tact and delicacy; both because of the peculiar privileges enjoyed, and so highly rated by the inhabitants; and because of the importance of attaching the inhabitants to the English government, so long as its possession be considered a matter of importance; and since also, in war time, the safety of the island depends, in some degree, upon the fidelity and efficiency of the island militia. A governor of Jersey, ought to be extremely careful how he jostles with island privileges; and even in exercising his military government, mildness, and caution, are greatly to be commended. Some little deficiencies in these, have lately led to misunderstandings, which have risen into deadly feuds. The militia too, is not so popular a service as it once was; and in consequence of a somewhat

rigid discipline,—and some unnecessary severities, a pretty general feeling has been engendered, by no means favourable to the system which Government professes to be desirous of encouraging.

There is no doubt however, that the position of a resident governor in Jersey, is a difficult position. There is so much jealousy of privileges, and so bitter a spirit of faction, that no governor, did he possess even the virtues of a Titus, with the wisdom of a Solomon, could hope to please all parties.

I have mentioned the militia of the island. This is a large and efficient force, in which all persons between the ages of 17 and 65 are liable to serve. The regiments are six in number; and muster, with the artillery, which consists of twenty-four light six pounders, about 2500 men. They are in an excellent state of discipline; are greatly attached to their island officers; and have proved themselves, in actual service, worthy of being entrusted with the defence of the island.

The expense to the British government, of maintaining this force, is considerable: and I think, that without injuring its efficiency, the

British government might be relieved from this expense. The whole sum paid to inspectors, assistant inspectors, and drill sergeants, amounts to a very considerable sum ;* and there appears to be no sufficient reason why the large island revenue should not be charged with this burden. Nor is this the only burden which might either be shifted, or altogether removed.

But I may perhaps be permitted to doubt, whether the mode usually adopted for ascertaining the possibility of making reductions, be the best that could be adopted. A lieutenant governor of a colony is requested to make a return of his own emoluments ; and, as an example, that no dependence can be placed upon such returns, the returns of such emoluments, transmitted by the present lieutenant governors of Jersey and Guernsey, were entirely different, though their emoluments arise from precisely similar sources. I do not mean to impugn the integrity of either: but the returns made by them individually, were framed according to the understanding which each had, of what government required of him. When a similar return was required from Sir

* For note see conclusion of the work.

Colin Halkett, a late lieut.-governor of Jersey, he returned simply 10s. 6d. per day, his allowance as governor, making no mention of staff or military allowances of any description.

Nor is it perhaps to be expected, that governors of colonies, when requested to state what reductions may be made in their government, will be guided in their answer, solely by a regard for the public purse: the more offices, the more patronage; and there is also a feeling of delicacy, which cannot but be felt, in recommending the abolition of offices held by those who are probably upon terms of friendship with the governor. I need scarcely say, that in these general observations upon the subject of reductions, I have Guernsey, as well as Jersey in view.

But let us for a moment, since we are upon the subject of expenditure, enquire very briefly into the value of the Channel Islands, as British possessions.

It has been calculated, and I have reason to know that the calculation is a correct one, that during war, the expense to the British government, of maintaining the military establishments

in Jersey alone, nearly reached half a million per annum.* This enormous sum arises from the pay of a large body of troops,—the wear and tear of warlike instruments,—and the enormous price of provisions, defrayed by government: and it is perhaps a question worth putting, whether the advantages resulting to England from the possession of these islands, be worth the cost of maintaining a large additional force for their protection. The ground, upon which the value of these islands to Britain, is commonly based, appears to me an unsound one. It is commonly said, that if in the hands of the enemy, the trade of the channel would be placed in peril; and this conclusion is not an unnatural one to be at first sight taken up, when we recollect the number of privateers belonging to these islands in the early part of the last war; and the great loss sustained by the enemy, in consequence of them. But it ought to be recollected, that the introduction of steam, has since then, materially affected the question. A steam frigate or two (especially if a breakwater were constructed in Portland roads,) could keep the channel free of sailing privateers; for it may

* For note see conclusion of the work.

fairly be concluded, that the islands would own none but sailing vessels, owing to the enormous expense which would attend the fitting out of steam vessels as privateers. And besides, why should the islands of the channel be objects of so much alarm, since Cherbourg, now a great naval station, is quite as advantageously situated for annoying the trade of the channel, as Jersey or Guernsey.

If the only question therefore was, whether nearly a million of money per annum, be well spent in maintaining the Channel Islands, for the sake of protecting the channel trade, the answer would certainly be in the negative. As for the other question which might be raised,—whether the honour of retaining as appendages to the British crown, islands, whose sovereignty is as old as the Norman Conquest; and which from their proximity to France, seem naturally to belong to her, be worth a million per annum,—it is too nice a question for me to enter upon.

Having had frequent occasion to mention the revenue of the island, I shall be pardoned for exhibiting a brief view of its present financial con-

dition. The revenue of Jersey arises from the duty on the importation of wines and spirits,—from harbour dues,—and from licenses granted to publicans. The average of the first of these, for three years, ending with December 1833, was no less than £10,425 8s. 2d. and the addition of publican's licenses, and harbour dues, amounting, with other smaller items of revenue, to £3732 17s. 7d., makes the whole revenue £14,158 5s. 9d.

From this sum there is to be deducted, the interests of the public debt. The total debt of the island amounted, at Ist January 1834, to £61,652 5s. 4½d., the interest on which, at 4 per cent, £2483 5s. 5d., being deducted from the revenue. leaves a disposable income of £11675.

These facts are somewhat curious : and lead to the inevitable conclusion, that extraordinary mismanagement only, could have produced so extraordinary a result : for considering, that large aid has been received from England, in the construction of defences ; that the revenue is not charged with the salaries of the public officers, who are all paid from the crown revenue ; and that no part of the expense of maintaining and clothing

the militia, falls upon the island, one would rather expect to find a large accumulation of revenue, than an increasing debt. No doubt some public works of an expensive nature, have been undertaken, and completed; but now that no large calls upon the revenue are likely to be made, there seems to be ground for believing, that it is amply sufficient not only for the ordinary local demands upon it; but that it may be fairly charged with the support of the island militia, and with the salaries of the different public officers.

The state of the church, and the institutions in some degree connected with it, call for a few words. The dean of Jersey, who is named by the crown, is at the head of the insular church; and holds a spiritual court, from which there is an appeal to the see of Winchester. The dean is always one of the twelve rectors; but no pluralities are admitted. The clergy of Jersey, are poorly paid; they are entitled to little more than the small tithes,—which do not average to each, above £120 per annum. It would undoubtedly have been more just, if a part of the great tithes, which belong to the crown, had been appropriated

to a reasonable augmentation of livings, rather than to the payment of a salary to a sinecurist; and since this bad appropriation of the crown revenue appears to be destined for change, by the retrenching spirit of the present government, it is to be hoped, that the claims of the under-paid clergy will not be forgotten. It is possible that these claims may not be advanced; but at a time when there is a disposition to afford something like adequate remuneration to the working clergy of England,—and all the incumbents in Jersey, are working clergy—it is almost to be expected, that when a large sum is about to be released from the grasp of a sinecurist,—a part of it may be appropriated towards the moderate augmentation of the miserable livings in Jersey.

It is much to be regretted, that by the constitution of the island, the clergy have seats in the legislature. I do not at present, speak of this, as a political flaw in the constitution; but only, as it affects the usefulness of the clergy, which necessarily depends greatly, upon their moral influence over their respective flocks. In an island such as Jersey, where subjects of local

interest, are every day springing up, great diversity of opinion must continually exist, as to the course most proper to be pursued by the legislature, in the various matters, brought before it; and thus, the clergy are necessarily brought into ill odour with a part of their parishioners. If this statement required any illustration to enforce its justness, I might refer to the consequences which have followed the late conduct of the English bishops,—who beyond all doubt, have, by means of it, impaired their moral influence over the people. It is impossible, that men who have witnessed (or think they have witnessed) the fallibility of their minister's judgment in temporal matters, should trustingly confide to him their eternal interests.

Such is a slight outline of the civil, military, and ecclesiastical government of Jersey,—forming altogether, a constitution, to which there is the blindest attachment on the part of the great majority of the people, who, if any change be proposed, immediately exclaim, "See how our island has flourished!" The flourishing condition of the island, is not, however, owing to the pri-

vileges which are so much valued by the people, and which may be termed political privileges; but is owing to its great commercialprivileges: when I come to speak of the commerce of the island, these will be enumerated and explained; meanwhile I would only observe, that it is these commercial privileges which have filled its harbour with shipping, and extended its commerce over the world; these which confer upon it the the advantage it possesses over other spots, in commanding at a lower price, the luxuries, and many of the necessaries of life. This in conjunction with the absence of taxation, is the attraction which has drawn some thousands of English residents to its shores; this it is, which has covered the environs of the town with villas,—and formed new streets,—and opened shops,—and raised the value of property, and in fact, made Jersey what it is.

The privileges of Jersey, are great and invaluable,—impossible to be enjoyed without producing important benefits upon the people who enjoy them. Here, the taxgatherers knock is unknown; here, a year's poor-rates are paid by a wealthy

man, with a sum that would not furnish him with a dinner in England: here, if we say to a shopkeeper, "the article is dear," we are not answered, "It is owing to the high duty Sir, I get nothing by it:" here a man may sit down to a well spread table covered with foreign, colonial, and British produce and manufacture, and see not one article for which he has paid any thing beyond the price of produce and labour, and the trader's profit. But these privileges are necessary to the prosperity of Jersey. Without them, its population would dwindle away, and trade would languish; property fall in value; and thus, depopulated, moneyless, and nerveless, it would fall a prey to France on the outbreaking of a war, an event, which if it be the policy of England to avert, can be averted only by protecting the privileges of Jersey, guarding against the abuse of them; and thus encouraging the prosperity, and consequently, the patriotism and loyalty of those who enjoy them.

Besides the important, and real privileges which I have mentioned, Jersey possesses others, highly esteemed by those who exercise them—none of

them however, of any real value, and one, directly prejudicial to the welfare of the island. This, the right of electing their own judges, I have already spoken of. The other political privileges consist in being governed by their own legislature; the inoperativeness of all writs from British courts of judicature; freedom from the effects of acts of parliament; exemption from the impress service; and some other privileges, which are either too trifling to notice, or which are not now recognized. These, contribute nothing to the prosperity of Jersey; and, with the exception of freedom from the impress service, nothing towards the happiness of the people. Many of them, are besides, imaginary. An act of parliament, backed by an order in council, may extend to Jersey; the refusal of the royal sanction, makes nugatory, the acts of island legislation; and, it were absurd for a moment to suppose, that the parliament of Britain, does not legislate for the benefit of the whole empire. For the preservation of all its truly valuable privileges, Jersey is indebted to the interest of the empire at large. Whether or not it would be well, that the habeas corpus act

should be made to extend to this island, let the following fact testify. It is but lately, that a girl was imprisoned, charged with some inconsiderable offence by the authority of some police officer. There she remained nine months, at the end of which time, upon the representation of one of his majesty's receivers general (for be it recollected that the maintenance of prisoners forms a deduction from the king's revenue) the girl was brought up for trial, or rather for accusation. There was no accuser,—no charge,—the cause even of her imprisonment was unknown; and she was discharged.

A thorough and radical change in the civil constitution of the island, is essential to the happiness of the people of Jersey. So long as the present mode of constituting the bench be maintained, the spirit of faction will continue to exercise its despotism: and ignorance, and partiality, will impede the course of justice. From the island legislature, nothing is to be hoped; it is in vain to imagine, that the twelve judges, and the twelve rectors, will accede to any proposition for excluding themselves from the legislative body.

But indeed, it is much to be doubted, whether a legislature, however formed, would be found an efficient one; for there is no reason to believe, that at present, the island population offers thirty-six individuals, competent for the office.

At a time when the education of the people, forms so prominent a feature in all systems of national improvement, it is necessary that I should bestow a few words on the means of intellectual improvement in Jersey.

There are two endowments for free schools in the island; both in the country parishes,—one, called St. Anastase; the other St. Manelier. These were founded in the reign of Henry VII, who granted a charter to the endowers. The property attached to these chartered schools, is extremely small, and altogether inadequate to carry into effect the intention of the founders. The nomination of the masters, lies with the dean, and the rectors of the twelve parishes; and the schools are, or rather were, intended to be free to all,—the inhabitants of the eastern and of the western half of the island having respectively the right of sending their children to the two

schools. Little good however, has resulted from these foundations: the allowances were too small to secure the exertions of competent masters; and it has happened, that for a considerable period, the whole revenue has been swallowed up in repairs to the buildings. Such has been long the case with the school of St. Anastase, which does not at present boast of a single scholar; and till lately, when the school of St. Manelier was put upon a somewhat better footing, twenty was the greatest number of pupils known to attend. Since the appointment of the present master, the number has increased to about forty; but the establishment still languishes. The States of the island ought to vote a part of the island revenue in aid of this institution: their funds are frittered away in ill-devised works, generally so clumsily executed, that the necessity for continued repairs, keeps up a constant drain on the revenue: and prevents their application to works of greater utility.

In the town of St. Helier, there is a national school on Bell's system, for the youth of both sexes, who are instructed gratis, in the common

branches of education. This school is supported by subscriptions and donations; and there is also a fund, the interest of other donations, from which clothes are provided; and which are presented as prizes. The school may be said to be in a flourishing condition; and it is believed by those who have had the best opportunity of judging, to have been very instrumental in improving the intellectual and moral condition of the lower orders.

The "seminaries," as they are called, in the town and neighbourhood of St. Helier, are sufficiently numerous; there are, I believe, between twenty and thirty of such "establishments;" and although I readily admit, that among the conductors of these, there are some fitted for the task of instruction, they are of course trading speculations, and offer no guarantee, such as that, which under an improved system of national instruction, ought to be provided.

With respect to the state of education throughout the island, I should say, that instruction is very general; and indeed in the country, among the native inhabitants, there is scarcely any child

who is not at school. In some of the parishes there are slenderly endowed schools; in others there are no endowments: but there is no parish, in which there is any want of schools for instruction in French, English and Arithmetic; and sunday schools also, are sufficiently provided, but their efficiency is considerably impaired by the exclusive adoption of the catechism of the episcopal church. I have frequently walked into the country schools; and have always found the masters pains-taking, and tolerably intelligent.

There is also an endowment of about £76 per annum, for aiding students in their studies in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

Jersey has many institutions and societies, for the amelioration of man's moral and physical condition. The chief of these institutions, is the hospital, so called,—but which would more properly be denominated poor-house,—since there is no general medical establishment attached to it. This institution is very inferior in its internal management to the same institution in Guernsey, of which I shall afterwards have occasion to speak. It contains no educational department;

no teaching of trades to the young; no perfect separation of sexes; and in its general arrangements, is most defective both as regards the physical and moral condition of those who are its inmates.

And worse than all this, the subsistence of the poor is farmed out to an individual, whose gain arises from the difference between the expense of feeding those committed to his charge, and the sum he is allowed by the States for that purpose; a system, which I need scarcely characterize, as utterly unworthy of the age. Even the remuneration of the medical attendant, is on the same bad principle: he has no fixed salary; but is paid merely by the quantity of physic which he administers. I by no means intend any reflexions upon the individuals who are so circumstanced. The medical officer I know to be incapable of any but the most honorable conduct; nor do I know anything to the disadvantage of the individual to whom the poor are farmed; but these are temptations that ought not be presented to any man; and no establishment should be conducted on such a system, that the interest of those in the

management, is placed in direct opposition to the objects of the institution.

But in Jersey, the curse of party spirit is upon every thing,—throwing a chill, even upon the best emotions, and paralysing the exertions of the philanthropist: for the most noble project that ever was ripened by wisdom and humanity, would be blighted in Jersey, by the indifference, if not the open hostility of the party with whom it did not originate.

Jersey has also many private benevolent institutions; comprehending both the physical and religious wants of the inhabitants,—among others, a provident society,—and two infant schools,—all of these recently established; but all of them, upon the whole, prosperous, and most deserving of being so; both on account of the objects which they entertain, and the zealous and excellent management under which they are placed. I must not omit to mention, that a savings' bank is about to be established both in Jersey and Guernsey, in consequence of an order in council recently transmitted to the islands; and that the legislature is at this moment engaged in discussing the

curious question, whether the security of the British government, or of the States of Jersey be the better!!!

I shall conclude this chapter, with a few words on the state of the public press, in Jersey. There are not many communities so limited as Jersey, among which there are so many public journals; and yet, I question if there be a community in any free country, so little influenced by the public press. The reason of this is, that the number of those who dare to think for themselves, is extremely limited: with few exceptions, the journals are the organs of one or other of the two parties; and so fearful are they of giving offence to the party which patronizes them, that nothing like freedom of sentiment is ever found in their columns. I at present allude more particularly to the French papers; for these, being chiefly read by the country people, are the only journals, which under worthy management, might exercise an influence over the public mind. Without exception, these are the furious organs of party; and are conducted with apparently the sole view of pleasing certain partisans. The acrimo-

ny, invective, and personal abuse, which figure in their columns, extremely surprise a stranger who has been accustomed to the more gentlemanly tone of the English press; and certainly reflect no great credit upon the taste of the public, who are not only satisfied, but delighted with this manner of writing; and who, with few exceptions, look upon the most powerful and nervous writing, as tame, if it be not seasoned with personality. There is indeed one excuse for this depraved appetite on the part of the public: it is, that both in the legislative body, and in the courts of justice, an example is set. The harangues in the "States" are too frequently a tissue of personalities; such, as in no well regulated assembly, would be for a moment endured; and even in Court, allusions are made to the judges on the bench, and a violence permitted, very unusual in such places. Nothing, by the bye, can be a better illustration of the indifference of the natives of Jersey, towards all that lies beyond their little world, than the contents of the French local papers. They are small sheets, like the smallest of the French papers, sold at 1½d.: from one and

half, to two, of these small pages, is filled with island news,—the proceedings of the States,—the pleadings in the Court,—parish meetings,—and original articles, or letters, upon local politics. The most scanty space imaginable, is made to suffice for the world at large. The most important debates in the British parliament, are despatched in a paragraph; and the foreign intelligence of Europe, is evidently a matter of very minor consideration. As for British domestic intelligence, there is no department for it. I recollect observing, that no mention was made in one of the most read journals, of the death of the king of Spain,—at that time, from many causes, an event of great political interest. The names of the French papers, are the "Constitutionnel," the "Chronique," the "Impartial," the "Gazette de Jersey," and the "Journal de Commerce." The two first of these, of opposite parties, enjoy a large circulation, and all of them are conducted with a fair portion of talent, though unhappily made subservient to the narrow views of party.

There are also, six English newspapers in Jersey, which are read by the educated classes of the

natives, and of course, also, by the British residents. In these journals, whose contents are of the miscellaneous character, which distinguishes the English newspapers, British and foreign intelligence, and Jersey matters, are about equally prominent; and some of these, are, like their French cotemporaries, devoted to party. The names of these journals are, the "British Press," the "Jersey Times," both published twice a week, the "English and Foreign News," and the "Patriot." The first of these—the oldest and most widely circulated,—has been, during two years, unconnected with party; and is the boldest, and most indiscriminating in its censure; particularly as regards the conduct of the present lieutenant-governor. The "Jersey Times" is also a respectable and well conducted paper, and is considered to be particularly in the interest of the lieutenant-governor. The "English and Foreign News" and the "Patriot" are chiefly found in the hands of the lower classes; and compete successfully with their French cotemporaries in the virulence of their scurrility.

The influence of these journals also, is limited;

not so exclusively the slaves of party as the French papers, their influence on the pubiic mind is perhaps somewhat greater; and in matters which concern the British residents, they are powerful engines. In a recent attempt which was made in the States, to tax for the benefit of the island, the property of British residents, though situated out of Jersey, the strenuous opposition of the "British Press," and the exhibition of feeling manifested in consequence amongst the English, compelled the proposer of the law to withdraw it. Besides these journals, there are two English newspapers, addressed exclusively to the religious public,—"The Record," and "The Christian's Friend," so that there are altogether, no fewer than eleven newspapers published in Jersey.

Almost every grown-up person, man or woman, reads one or other of the Jersey newspapers. On Saturday morning, when three of the French papers are published, one is seen in every market person's hand, or lying on almost every market stall. The fish-woman, the fruit-woman, the butter woman, has each her newspaper; and lays in, for another week, a stock of knowledge

as to the affairs of Jersey. The circulation of the island papers, is very considerable. There being no stamps on the paper, their price is extremely low; and the absence of duty also on advertisements, encreases their number, and consequently gives to the newspaper another attraction. I have counted, in the "British Press," which is published twice a week, as many as a hundred and thirty advertisements; and I have counted one hundred and forty in the "Chronique." I scarcely think any district will be found in Britain, containing a population of no more than 40,000 inhabitants, in which eleven newspapers are published.

CHAPTER IX.

AGRICULTURE IN JERSEY.

Backward state of agriculture, and its causes; high rent in Jersey; value of land; advance of tillage; general husbandry; wheat harvest; the reaping field; return from land; odd customs; multifarious uses of parsnip; potato land; joint stock labour and stock; orchards, and manufacture of cider; vraick, or sea-weed, as manure; wages of labour; cattle of Jersey; the Jersey cow, and her privileges; the dairy; sheep, and horses; the agriculture society.

The state of agriculture in Jersey, is backward; and substantial reasons may be assigned for this; the most prominent perhaps of which, is the minute division of property. The law of Gavelkind, which obtains in this island, necessarily occasions a minute division of property; so much so, that it not unfrequently happens, that at the end of two generations, the eldest son is left without sufficient land to maintain himself, or to keep up his paternal house. Not only do we find in

Jersey, half a dozen fields belonging perhaps to half a dozen persons, but sometimes even the same field owning two or more proprietors. In this case, the field is sown with different kinds of grain; and each proprietor speaks of his "camp de grain."

That this minute division of property, and the law which produces it, should lead to a backward state of agriculture, must be at once apparent. There is little spur to exertion,—and limited means of improvement. One left with an inheritance of only three or four vergées of land, is rarely in a condition to purchase the proper manure necessary to ensure a good crop; and even where farms of from ten to twenty vergées, are possessed by persons destitute of capital, little in the way of improvement can be expected. The English "ferme ornée," is unknown in Jersey; for no man in his senses would dream of putting a ring fence round his property; or of beautifying, planting, and laying out his grounds, when he knows, that by the existing law, the "ferme ornée" might probably be broken up and subdivided at his death. Quail, in his report on the

agriculture of these islands, mentions another obstacle to improvement, in the want of labourers. But the difficulty of obtaining labourers, was only felt during the war; a sufficiency of French and English labourers may now be commanded, whose wages vary from 10d. to 2s. per day. The latter wages are generally paid for the most efficient English labourers.

An English farmer who finds that he can scarcely obtain a livelihood, when paying 25s. per acre, would start, when told that the best land in the country parishes in Jersey, lets (when let at all) at £2 10s. per vergee, which is equivalent to £5 12s. 6d. per English acre; and he would naturally enquire, how such a rent is paid? To this question, I shall speak by and bye. Rent in the neighbourhood of St. Helier is as high as from £3 to £4 per vergée; and, generally speaking, average good land throughout the island, fetches £2 per vergée; or £4 10s. per English acre. Let it be always borne in mind, that two vergées and one quarter, make an English acre; and that in quoting prices, I speak of Jersey pounds, from which 1s. 8d. must be deducted, to bring them to

sterling money. The rent of the best land in the country, will therefore be £5 3s. 2d. sterling; and the rent of average good land throughout the island, will be £4 2s. 6d.

To return for a moment, to the question supposed to be asked by an English farmer, how such high rents are paid? The reply is not difficult. The Jersey farmer is enabled to pay a higher rent than the English farmer, because his produce is greater, and his expenses are less. He has no land tax to pay; little or no poor rates; his manure costs him little,—great part of it nothing beyond the expense of fetching it; and provisions being cheaper, labour is also lower. It may be alledged perhaps, that if provisions and labour are cheap, so must be the produce of the farm,—which forms so large a class of the necessaries of life. But by the peculiar immunities and privileges possessed by Jersey, the farmer, or landowner, has all the advantage of cheap provisions and cheap labour, while at the same time, the value of his farm produce is unaffected. When I come to speak of the commerce of the island, this fact will be more apparent; meanwhile, I

may only state, that the inhabitants of Jersey may eat the beef, mutton, and flour of France without any duty on importation; while at the same time, the farmer may send his own produce to the English market free of duty; and command a much higher price for it, than that at which he can consume the continental produce. To these diminished expenses of the farmer, add the greater produce of his land, which, in wheat, potatoes, and lucerne, is undeniably greater than in England,—and it will no longer appear singular, that such high rents are cheerfully paid for good land in Jersey.

The value of land is on the encrease in Jersey; and this, in a ratio corresponding with the encreased population, and the rapid encrease of wealth among the farmers and merchants. In the parishes farthest removed from St. Helier, land has been selling during the present year (1833) at £117 per acre; and an estate of forty vergées, lying about a mile and a half from St. Helier, was very recently purchased at £150 per acre. Nor is this considered in Jersey, too high a price for the best arable land. An offer was

made the following day, to the purchaser, to rent the farm at £6 15s. per acre, leaving the purchaser in possession of the farm-house and garden, the rent of which, would pay him the full interest of his purchase money at 5 per cent.

I have already mentioned the system of lending labour and stock, which prevails amongst the farmers. This applies particularly to the great Jersey plough, or "grande querue," which is held in community. At the time when Mr. Quail made his report, this plough was in universal use,—nor is it yet discarded, though it is certainly less in vogue than it appears to have been in those days. The Norfolk, Suffolk, and Scotch swing ploughs have now been introduced; and Jersey farmers are beginning to discover, that ploughing to the depth of eleven inches is sufficient in the best husbandry; and it is probable, that the "grande querue," with its eighteen inch deep furrows, and harnessed with its two bullocks and eight horses,—or with its six bullocks and sixteen horses, as might once have been seen in Guernsey, will shortly be seen no more.

When Quail wrote, there was only one thrashing mill in Jersey; now, there are several; but they are all of an inferior construction. The small size however of the Jersey farms scarcely creates a necessity for the thrashing mill.

. All the writers on Jersey, whom I have consulted, state in positive terms, that tillage in Jersey has declined, and is declining; and certain reasons are assigned why tillage is on the decline. These reasons do not however, now exist: and tillage has of late been decidedly on the encrease; A great spur was given to tillage, by the construction of the new roads, and the improved means of keeping them in repair, Where great impediments exist in the way of bringing farm produce to market, tillage cannot well be prosperous. Twenty years ago, three horses were required to drag a ton weight of potatoes to St. Helier from any of the distant parishes; and not only so,—but it was also necessary to send an avant courier to keep the road clear. Now, a farmer can send the same weight of potatoes with a single horse and a boy, twice in one day, from the remote parishes to the pier of St. Helier.

Respecting the general husbandry of Jersey, and management of crops, I would say, that that important piece of knowledge,—the rotation of crops, as applicable to the soil and climate of Jersey, is pretty well understood. Fallows are seldom or never seen in Jersey. Wheat harvest, in the warmest situations, generally commences about the beginning of August; but it is nearly a month later, before it be gathered in throughout the island: but this is later than it need be; for Jersey farmers allow their corn to stand till it be greatly riper than it is ever seen in England; and it is only the most careful reaping that can prevent a considerable portion from being shed.

Reaping time in Jersey, is, as in most other places, a merry time: but there is one peculiarity attending the Jersey reaping field. The reapers always sing the reaping song; and but for this song, no proprietor or farmer would be satisfied that the reapers did their duty. The song is sufficiently monotonous; but to one walking through the fields of a summer's day, the effect is not unpleasant. It is singular enough, that the words of the songs have not in general any relation to

the island, or to the harvest, although they are called indiscriminately, "chansons de la moisson." The first song that I chanced to hear sung by the reapers, was some passage in the history of a Parisian belle.

The return from wheat land in Jersey, is large. It may be stated as high as thirty cabots per vergée;* or 67½ cabots per English acre. In the summer of 1833, an intelligent farmer of St. Peter's had five hundred cabots of wheat from ten vergées of land,—which is at the rate of 69 Winchester bushels (of 56 lb.) to the English acre. At the time Mr. Quail made his report to the board of agriculture, it would appear that wheat and barley in Jersey, were grown in nearly equal quantities. This is no longer the case. There is at least three times more wheat than barley, sown in Jersey.

Some years ago, the practice was very general throughout Jersey, of sowing rye and barley seed mixed; but it is now less frequent,—the inconvenience of mixing crops which do not arrive at maturity at the same time, beginning to be discovered; partly owing to improved notions, and

* A Jersey cabot contains 30 lb.

partly owing to an improved market for the more valuable crops. Oats are not extensively grown, and are used chiefly for feeding hogs.

There is no crop more carefully cultivated in Jersey, than parsnips; nor any so universally cultivated by all classes of farmers; but in parsnip husbandry, the hoe is not yet in use. The crop is cleaned in the more certain, but greatly more expensive, manner of hand weeding, which is performed by women on their knees, who use small weeding forks, and deposit the weeds in baskets which they carry with them. Parsnips are now never mixed with any other crops. Various are the uses, to which parsnips are put, in Jersey: but they are not now used as human food to the extent which they were at the time Quail made his report. Both hogs and bullocks are fattened with parsnips; and their effect, in communicating a finer flavour to beef, is generally admitted. The effect of this vegetable on the flavour of butter, is also well understood: as much as 35 lbs. per day, is often given to a milch cow.

Potatoes, being an important article of Jersey

exportation, are extensively cultivated; and the cultivation of this root, is fast encreasing. The management however, is not the best; for the use of fresh sea weed as manure on rich lands, procures a crop of potatoes, unfit either for the table or for exportation. The produce from potato land in Jersey is enormous. As many as sixteen cabots per perch, have been known to be obtained. This is no less 62,030 lbs. avoirdupois per acre,—a return very little inferior to that raised by Mr. Knight of Downton castle. Experiments are now in progress in the island to obtain varieties by seed.

No crop is more valued in Jersey, than lucerne; and since the introduction and increased cultivation of this grass, the beauty of the island has been greatly inereased. Along many parts of the sea coast, on the sand hills, where formerly, the eye did not rest upon a blade of verdure, many acres of lucerne have been laid down; and now, even in the driest seasons,—owing to the peculiar property in this plant, of sending down its roots to a surprising depth,—a constant verdure is preserved, when all other grasses are withered and burnt

up. No Jersey farmer is now without a bit of lucerne; and the dry seasons which have of late prevailed, have had the effect of extending its cultivation, by bringing its properties more to light. To mow four crops of lucerne is nothing unusual in Jersey.

I have mentioned the system adopted in Jersey, of joint-stock labour and stock. This practice, once universal, still generally obtains among the middle classes of farmers; but the more wealthy, are gradually becoming independent of this system, and are possessed of ploughs, harrows, and cattle of their own. The "grande querue," of which I have already spoken, is the only agricultural implement that is never possessed by an individual.

The great export of Jersey being cider, orchard land necessarily occupies a very large portion of the island. Quail states, that one fourth of the arable land is occupied by apple trees; and of late, the export of apples and of cider has been steadily on the increase. The apples the highest in estimation in Jersey, are the romeril, the noir-toit, and the gros-amer. The crop is of course

extremely varied in quantity; one tree sometimes produces a hogshead of cider; and the general average may be stated to be from eight to twelve hogsheads per vergée of land. Sometime ago, a company was established in St. Helier, for the manufacture of cider; but the speculation has now been abandoned. It may easily be inferred, from the great quantity of orchard land, that apples are considered to be among the most productive crops. Apples are indeed considered entitled to the first place; and then follow potatoes, lucerne, and wheat.

I have already, in speaking of the inhabitants, and their customs, introduced some notice of the vraic, or sea-weed, as the principal island manure. So important, and so valuable, is this manure deemed, that its equal distribution has been the subject of many legislative enactments. Among others, it is forbidden to carry away vraic between sun-set and sun-rise,—in order probably, to secure an equal chance of appropriation to those living in the interior, as on the sea shore; and in the western parishes, on the shores of which, the westerly winds drive at times, vast

quantities of sea-weed, the law establishes the mode of division amongst those who reside in these parishes.

But the largest and most valuable supply of vraic is not obtained by the chance contribution of the tide; but is taken from the rocks on which it grows at two seasons of the year, fixed by the Royal Court of the island. The vraic is used as a manure, either fresh from the rock, or, after it has been used as fuel. The former is considered to be the most efficient as a manure on grass lands; but for other crops it is generally preferred burnt.

In a very early morning ride through the country, one is apt to imagine that everywhere the Jersey farmer and his household are astir, even before daybreak; for one descries the smoke rising from every farm-house, and from almost every cottage. But this is owing to the custom of never extinguishing the vraic fire: nor would there be any economy in a contrary practice, since the consumption of fuel, is the manufacture of manure.

It has already been said, that ownerships of

land being generally small, the proprietor and his family, with occasional assistance from neighbouring proprietors, in very many cases perform the whole labour. Since wealth however has encreased, and an improved and more experimental husbandry has been introduced, hired labour has become more common.

The following table exhibits the price of labour at four different periods, 1775, 1792, 1813, and 1833. The three first are given in Mr. Quail's report,—the last, is stated from my own information.

	1775.		1792.		1813.		1833.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Master Carpenter.	1	4½	..	——	..	5	0 ..	3 6
Journeyman do.	1	0	..	——	..	4	0 ..	2 9
Carpenter's apprentice	0	5	..	——	..	1	6 ..	1 3 to 1 6
Gardener with board	0	5	..	——	..	2	0 ..	3 0 to 3 6
Thatcher	1	0	..	——	..	4	0 ..	4 0
Weeding women employed in husbandry with bd.	0	2½	..	——	..	1	0 ..	1 0
Do. without board.								0 6
Mason superintending work	1	3	..	1 10	..	5	0 ..	3 6 to 4 0
Mason								2 9
Day Labourer with board	0	3	..	0 5	..	1	6 ..	1 8 to 2 0

Some Frenchmen work for 1s., and Frenchwomen for 10d. per day.

It remains for me to say a few words respecting the live stock of Jersey, and this, to the English reader, who has heard so much of the cow of these islands—commonly called the Alderney cow—will probably be the most interesting topic connected with Jersey agriculture.

The islands are particularly tenacious of their claims in this matter. Each contends for the superiority of its own breed ; but there is no reason to doubt, that the breed of all the islands is originally the same ; though, from the system pursued by the agricultural society of Guernsey, the breed of that island now differs in many essential particulars from the breed of Alderney and Jersey. I shall by and bye, when occupied with Guernsey, have an opportunity of speaking more at length on the Guernsey cow.

It is the opinion of the best informed upon agricultural matters, that the Jersey and Alderney cow is the same—both distinguished by the fine curved taper horn, the slender nose, the fine skin, and the deer-like form ; and both preserved in their purity, by breeding in and in.

Quail in his report truly says, that "next to

the possession of vraic, the treasure highest in a Jerseyman's estimation is his cow." It is the same now as in Quail's time. The cow is the object of his chief attention; and the care and affection which he lavishes upon it, may be compared with that which a German lavishes on his horse,—only that the kindness which the Jerseyman shows for his cow, appears to exhaust all the kindness which he has to bestow on the inferior animals,—for I have never, in any country seen horses treated with less kindness than in Jersey. I cannot do better than quote the words of Quail when speaking of the affection of a Jerseyman for his cow. "It is true," says he, "that in summer, she must submit to be staked to the ground; but five or six times in the day, her station is shifted. In winter she is warmly housed by night, and fed with the precious parsnip; when she calves, she is regaled with toast, and with the nectar of the island, cider; to which, powdered ginger is added; and could she be prevailed on to participate in all her master's tastes, there is no doubt, but that he would willingly bestow on her the quintescence of vraic itself."

The high estimation in which the Jersey cow is held by their possessors, is shared by the island legislature, which has preserved the purity of the breed, by special enactments. An act was passed in the year 1789, by which, the importation into Jersey, of cow, heifer, calf, or bull, is prohibited, under the penalty of 200 livres, with the forfeiture of boat and tackle; and a fine of 50 livres is also imposed on every sailor on board, who does not inform of the attempt. The animal too, is decreed to be immediately slaughtered, and its flesh given to the poor.

The number of cows every where dotting the pastures, of Jersey, add greatly to the beauty of the landscape; though when one passes near to them, the discovery that they are tethered, somewhat decreases the pleasure we have in seeing them. In apple orchards, however, in which, the under grass crop is always used as cow pasture, it is necessary to tether the animal,—and not only so, but to attach also, the head to the feet, that the cow may be prevented from raising the head, and eating the apples, which she would be quite welcome to do, were it not that when

grown to any considerable size, they might injure her.

All over England, the Alderney cow—as it is generally called—is celebrated not only for its beauty, but for the richness of its milk, and excellence of the butter made from it. Extraordinary milkers even among Jersey cows, are sometimes found; I have heard of three cows on one property, yielding each from 16 to 18 quarts per day, during the months of May and June,—and of 36 lbs. of butter being made weekly from their milk. I have heard indeed, of one cow yielding 22 quarts: but these are of course extreme cases. The general average produce from Jersey cows, may be stated at 10 quarts of milk per day, and 7 lbs. of butter per week. It is stated, that in summer, from 9 to 10 quarts produce 1 lb. of butter,—and that in winter, when a cow is parsnip fed, the same quantity of butter may be obtained from 7 quarts; an extraordinary produce certainly.

The profit on the best cows, the calf included, is estimated at about £12,—£30 being the money received, and the keep reaching £18: but this

certainly applies only to the best cows. Two vergées and a half, or somewhat better than an acre of good land, is considered sufficient for a cow's pasture.

The price of Jersey cows has considerably fallen during the last fifteen years. A good cow may now be purchased for £12. A prime milker will fetch £15; and the average may be stated from £8 to £10.

When we come to speak of the commerce of Jersey, it will be seen, that the export of Jersey butter both fresh and salted, is very great; and as its quality is highly estimated, I shall make no apology for shortly detailing the mode of its manufacture.

Vessels of metal or of wood, are never employed in the dairy. The coarse unglazed earthenware of Normandy, is used. The vessels are round, of about twelve inches in height,—seven inches in diameter at bottom and nine inches at the top. The Staffordshire coarse pottery, in form somewhat resembling the French vessels, being glazed, is therefore never used in the Jersey dairy. The milk stands at the height of about ten inches

in the vessel, till the cream be all risen, usually till the third day in summer. In winter, to hasten its rising, the vessels are covered and placed in the hearth at bed time. Skimming is consequently but once performed; and never, until after the milk be coagulated. To the operation of skimming, great attention is bestowed: the cream is first detached from the edge of the vessel all round; and then is raised up, as much as possible together: and by inclining the vessel over that which is destined to receive the cream, sometimes the whole slips off at once from the coagulated milk. At the bottom of the vessel which contains the cream, there is a small hole, stopped up by a peg, which is occasionally withdrawn in order to drain off the serous portion separating the cream. Butter is never considered so good in Jersey when the cow is fed on lucerne or clover, as on natural pasture. It is generally admitted, that Jersey butter, when salted, preserves its good properties for a longer period than English butter.

That, notwithstanding the attention bestowed upon the Jersey cow, and the purity of its breed,

guarded as it is, both by law, and rooted opinion, the Jersey cow has nevertheless deteriorated, is certain. I was present a few months ago, at the inaugurational meeting of the agricultural society for Jersey, at which many facts illustrative of this truth, were stated to the Secretary.

There is no such thing as a breed of sheep in Jersey. Sheep are only reared by those who have a right of common, and who live in the neighbourhood of the common; and the sheep are left entirely to shift for themselves. It is in fact, only the poorer classes who keep sheep at all. Jersey is not indeed well adapted for sheep. From the great portion of orchard land, it would of course be necessary to exclude them; and the fences, which though apparently formidable, are but embarkments, would be insufficient to restrain their roving disposition. The stile of cottage farming too, is not suitable for sheep rearing.

Of horses, I have only to say, that little attention is paid to the breed; but the Jersey horse is well deserving of attention. It is a hardy and hard working animal, and is in fact a cross of the cossack; a fact which is easily explained. In

the year 1800, when the assistance of a body of Russians was demanded by England, and when, on the result of a parliamentary interference, these troops were not permitted to land in England, they were sent to be quartered in Jersey, where they remained a considerable time; and a large portion of the horses being cossacks, the cossack cross, which is at once discoverable even in the appearance of the Jersey horses, but much more in their properties, is at once accounted for.

I conclude this chapter on the agriculture of Jersey, by referring to the recent establishment of an agricultural society in the island, under the best auspicies, and which, I have no doubt, will produce important results. Premiums have already been offered for the best specimens of every kind of produce; and the society already numbers among its members, a large proportion of the agriculturists of the island; among whom, no one is more deserving of mention, than its enlightened secretary, Colonel Le Couteur, to whose kindness, and extensive information, I am happy to acknowledge myself indebted, for the data which have guided me in writing this chapter.

CHAPTER X.

COMMERCE OF JERSEY.

Jersey is not to be regarded merely as an agreeable and fertile island, the favourite resort of strangers,—nor as a spot, curious to the enquirer, as enjoying singular political privileges,—nor as a social community, differing in manners and character from others,—and on all these accounts, interesting to the observer. If we are to regard Jersey in its most important aspect, it is as a commercial community that we must regard it. It will probably surprise the reader to be told, that there are no fewer than 232 vessels belonging to Jersey, with a tonnage reaching 21,000; besides nearly 300 large boats; upwards of 500 of which, are employed in the oyster fishery; that there are nearly 2000 seamen employed in these vessels, —besides at least another thousand who are en-

gaged in the oyster fishery,—and that in the year 1833, there were more vessels built in the island of Jersey, than in the whole of Ireland.

I shall in the following chapter, present a succinct view of the present state of trade of the island,—premising, that I do so from an accurate and full series of tables, prepared from the custom house books. It is possible, that my statements may disclose some singular facts,—all of them, not perhaps entirely favourable to the working of the present system: but it it is necessary for me to state facts,—to which, it will be the duty of statesmen to pay such attention as they appear to merit.

Although the people of Jersey, in their ignorance,—I might say, in their insanity—regard as the objects of their greatest veneration, and chief affection, those among their political privileges, which are not only worthless, but injurious,—it is to their commercial privileges alone, that the island is indebted for its prosperity. One political privilege indeed,—the exemption from direct taxation, may also be considered a source of prosperity; because the number of British resi-

dents has thereby been greatly encreased: but even in this, Jersey is chiefly indebted to her commercial privileges; which exempt articles of both common convenience and luxury, from that indirect taxation, which flows from custom house and excise duties.

The commerce of Jersey may be divided into the following heads,—her trade with Great Britain, and the British possessions abroad: her trade with North and South America, and with the Continent of Europe,—entirely unconnected with the former: and, a third branch, connected with both; (i.e.) the transit of British manufactures, to Newfoundland, New Brunswick, &c., for the supply of the fisheries, and establishments there, of the Jersey merchants; and the exportation from thence, of fish, oil, and furs, to the several ports of Europe and South America.

These are the several branches of the commerce of Jersey; and it will immediately appear, in what way, and to how great an extent, the success of these branches of trade is affected by the commercial privileges which the island enjoys.

The peculiar privileges, which Jersey by her

charters, enjoys, are these: she is empowered to send all articles being the produce of the island, to Britain,—as British produce; and every description of merchandize, the growth, produce, *and* manufacture of the island, to Great Britain and Ireland, on the same footing. She is also enabled to export every commodity, either the growth, produce, *or* manufacture of the island, to the British colonies, the same as if they were British manufactured goods.

It will be observed, that there is an important distinction between the term, "growth, produce, *and* manufacture," and the term, "growth, produce, *or* manufacture;" for while by the former expression, the free exports of Jersey to Britain of manufactured goods, must be not only the manufacture, but the produce also, of the island; Jersey is entitled by the terms of the latter expression, to export to the colonies, articles manufactured in the island, though of foreign produce. The advantage derived from this latter license, is obvious. From the details into which I shall presently enter, this will more clearly appear; meanwhile, I will only instance as two examples,

the power of importing foreign flour; manufacturning it into biscuit,—if such a process deserves the name of a manufacture,—and exporting the biscuit, or provisioning ships with it: and the power of importing French leather; making it,—I can scarcely say manufacturing it,—into shoes; and exporting these to North America as Jersey manufactures.

Nor are these, the only commercial privileges which Jersey enjoys. Jersey is a free port: all articles of foreign produce, not contraband, being imported free of duty,—a privilege, which not only lessens the price of provisions to the inhabitants; but diminishes in an important degree, the cost of ship building and outfit; and consequently acts as a stimulus to trade, and is a source of direct profit to the merchant. These advantages also, will be by and bye made more manifest. I will only state at present, that vessels are thus built with foreign timber and are rigged with foreign cordage; and although so built of foreign timber squared for the purpose abroad, and imported duty free,—and rigged in a great measure, with foreign manufactured cordage, purchased at

a cheap rate in Russia, yet Jersey vessels have the advantage of British registers, and consequently enjoy all the advantages in trade, secured to British built vessels.

I may also state here, that Jersey vessels load for a foreign port, without the articles put on board, being subject to examination; all that is required being, a declaration, that the articles so shipped, are of British manufacture: and, on the arrival of a vessel from a foreign port, she may commence unloading even at midnight; and half her cargo may be discharged, before an entry is made in the custom-house;—the act called the manifest act, never having been registered in the island.

Such are the commercial privileges enjoyed by Jersey; and with the possession of these, and exempt besides, as the island is, from all taxation, —excepting only, such as is needed to defray the charges of internal improvement, to which by the bye, Britain has of late years largely contributed, —it is no way wonderful, that the trade of Jersey should have rapidly encreased; and that the island should have made large advances in wealth

and importance. Forty years ago, the trade of Jersey was insignificant, compared with what it now is; being then confined to the voyages of a few vessels to Newfoundland, and to the monthly trip of a cutter to Southampton.

Guernsey, even before that period, was in some degree known, as a place of trade; but its notoriety was owing more to its illicit traffic in spirits and tobacco to the opposite ports of England, than to the extent of the fair and honourable dealings of its population as a mercantile community. A stop having been put to the nefarious traffic which had so largely contributed to the prosperity of Guernsey, the inhabitants did not take advantage of the independence of South America, to open new sources of wealth.

During the war, Jersey was not without her illicit dealings; and considerable fortunes were thus amassed, by what was denominated the licensed trade. Jersey vessels obtained licenses to trade to French ports, and bring back specified cargoes: and the manifest act having never been registered in the island, these vessels immediately commenced unloading, no custom house officer

being present; and the cargoes being sent direct to the merchant's warehouse, quantities of French silks were thus introduced, and sent to England, or elsewhere, as opportunities offered. In the year 1812, the lieutenant governor received £339 for trading licenses.

In 1812, the mercantile shipping of Jersey, consisted of 59 vessels, the burden of which, was 6003 tons,—navigated by 549 seamen; since which time, to 1833, the encrease in registered vessels has been 112,—besides a large number of cutters and boats; the encrease in tonnage 15436; the encrease in seamen 1500. The following is a statement of the number of vessels, with their tonnage, that cleared inwards and outwards from Jersey, during the years stated.

INWARDS.

Years.	Ships.	Tonnage.
1829	998	69447
1830	1021	69084
1831	973	68422
1822	1025	70025
1833	1051	58985

OUTWARDS.

1829	1131	61921
1830	1136	63603
1831	963	58863
1832	1052	64975
1833	1064	———

The above table refers only to vessels with cargoes; but a just notion of the extent of the trade of Jersey can be obtained only from a return of *all* vessels, in cargo or in ballast. Such a return has never yet been made up, and I have not yet been able to obtain it: but I have every reason to believe it will be in my power to insert that return at the end of the work,—to which I beg accordingly to refer the reader.

I now proceed to present the reader with somewhat minute details respecting the progress, and especially the present state of the trade of Jersey. I have now before me, minute tables, constructed from official documents, showing the whole exports and imports of Jersey for the years 1829, 1830, 1831 and 1832; and distinguishing, with the utmost exactitude, every individual article. These tables I might transfer to my work; but although I am well aware of the advantages of the tabular form, I am also sensible, that it is the least attractive, or readable form, in which information can be conveyed. I prefer therefore, introducing into the text, the results of these tables, with such details as appear to be necessary;

aud accompanied by such observations and explanations, as may be requisite towards a perfect understanding of the subject.

LIVE STOCK.

In this important article of commerce, and indeed, in the produce of the island generally, a great encrease in exportation has taken place since the termination of the war. It appears, by "an account of Jersey," drawn up about twenty years ago, that in the year 1810, and three following years, there were exported from Jersey, 61 bulls, and 3050 cows, heifers, and calves; during the years ending with December, 1832, the number was 53 bulls,—and 5756 cows, &c.; and it appears also, that the number exported in 1832, exceeded by 200, the number exported in any former year. The whole of this export of cows, is to England. The only other live stock exported from Jersey, is pigs; but the number is limited, scarcely reaching the average of 120 yearly.

The import of live stock for consumption, is very large. During the four above-named years, 8807 oxen, 18781 sheep, 3123 lambs, 1359 pigs,

and 58956 live poultry have been imported from France,—and during the same period, 102 oxen, and 968 sheep, from England.

During the same years, 51 tons, 37 cwt. and 1257 barrels of salted pork have been imported into Jersey, foreign produce, and 8 tons, 27 cwt. and 874 barrels of the same, British produce. And during these four years 873 barrels as foreign, and 696 barrels, as Jersey and British produce, have been exported.

GRAIN.

The details of this trade are somewhat curious. During the above four years, it appears that Jersey imported 73,620 quarters of foreign wheat; and 818 tons of foreign flour; and that during the same period, there was exported, 11,197 quarters of wheat, and 258 tons of foreign flour; leaving the enormous surplus of 62,423 quarters of wheat, and 560 tons of flour. But this is explained, when upon examining the tables for these same years, we find there was exported from Jersey, as Jersey and British produce, 263 tons of flour, and 618 tons of biscuit; from which it appears, that the Jersey flour and biscuit ex-

ported to the colonies, is chiefly made of foreign wheat. The biscuit, though doubtless known to be made of foreign flour, passes under the clause which permits the manufactures of Jersey to be exported to the colonies.

During the year 1833, 1849 quarters of Jersey wheat were exported to England.

The foreign grain imported into Jersey, is from the Baltic; a small portion of the wheat, is from France, Spain, and Sicily.

The whole of the oats, and almost all the barley imported into Jersey, is consumed in the island. The quantity of foreign oats imported in the above years, was 6099 quarters; and of foreign barley 12,583 quarters.

VEGETABLES, FRUIT, AND FARM PRODUCE.

Potatoes form a large export; and it is constantly encreasing. During the four years ending with 1813, 5294 tons were exported,—and in the four years ending with 1832, 134,341 tons were exported. This export is chiefly to Britain; and some portion to Gibraltar, Malta, and South America.

During the above years, 3150 bushels of onions

were imported from the Continent; and during the same period, 3581 bushels, purporting to be the growth of the island, were exported to England.

Of apples, there are no imports. The export, chiefly to England, during the above period, was 327,044 bushels,—of pears 2852 bushels; although the crop of 1831, was a total failure in fruit. In 1832, upwards of 2400 bushels were exported; and in 1831, little above 1700.

In the trade in cider, there has been a large encrease. 134,341 gallons were exported during the four years ending with 1813, while during the four years ending with 1832, 564,768 gallons were exported.

During the latter four years, 107997 lbs. of fresh and potted butter were exported from Jersey,—the produce of the island. Of this quantity 91,082 lbs. were sent to England fresh, and made up in pounds: and during the same period 324 tons of salted Jersey butter were exported, together with 41 tons of foreign butter, of which there appears to have been imported into Jersey, 256 tons.

During the above period, there was imported into Jersey 129 tons and 32 cwt. of raisins, of which quantity, 23 tons and 40 cwt. were again exported; 110 tons and 35 cwt. of currants, of which quantity, 14 tons, and 22 cwt. were again exported; 21 tons and 32 cwt. of figs, of which 2 tons and 52 cwt. were again exported; 16 tons and 42 cwt. of almonds, of which 8 tons and 26 cwt. were re-exported, 4021 boxes, 2503 half boxes and 220 chests of oranges, of which quantity 3068 boxes, 60 half-boxes and 12 chests were re-exported; 3077 boxes, 175 chests of lemons, of which 1121 boxes, and 30 chests were re-exported.

All these fruits are return cargoes, brought in this way; vessels from Jersey to Newfoundland, with stores or manufactures, ship cargoes of fish there, which they carry to the ports of the mediterranean,—and from thence bring cargoes of fruit to Jersey.

In reading the above details, it will be remarked, that the quantity of dried fruit exported, bears no proportion to the quantity imported; for example, of 129 tons imported, only 23 tons are

declared exported; and of 110 tons of currants, only 14 tons are re-exported. It is of course impossible to conceive that the difference, 103 tons of raisins, and 96 tons of currants, are consumed in the island. By far the greater part of this quantity must find its way to England, in other ways than in the regular channels. There is also a considerable export of grapes from Jersey: 6084 lbs. appear to have been exported during the period above-named; and there has been exported to England 1090 dozens of lobsters.

The only article solely of Jersey manufacture, which I see stated as export, is bricks, of which, during the above years 808,750 tale were exported.

LEATHER.

This article, raw and manufactured, is one of the most important articles of Jersey trade, and the one perhaps, in which the commercial privileges,—that especially, which allows the manufactures of Jersey to be exported to the Colonies,—is turned to the greatest advantage. This privilege, in conjunction with that of importing foreign produce free of duty, produces in the article of leather, a most valuable and extensive trade;

as appears from the following facts. During the foresaid four years, there appears to have been imported into Jersey from France, 340 tons of tanned and dressed leather, 52 pairs of boots, and 822 pairs of shoes. Of this leather, there were only 8 tons exported. But, during the same period, there is declared exported to the Colonies, as the produce of the island, 134 tons, 12 cwt., 2 qrs. and 15 lbs. of leather, of various decriptions; 4282 pairs of boots, and 55,112 pairs of shoes. It is evident therefore, what becomes of the French leather. The question was at one time started in the island, whether foreign leather made into boots and shoes, could be sent free to the colonies, as the manufacture of the island; but the question,—as far as the custom-house authorities of Jersey could settle it,—was set at rest, by their admission of the plea: and thus, the trade in imported leather, and exported boots and shoes, chiefly to Newfoundland, has gone on constantly encreasing. The exports of leather and of boots and shoes in 1832 greatly exceeds that of any former year. But this indeed, is the case with almost every article of exportation, the produce or

manufacture of the island; a result to be anticipated from the favourable position in which the island is placed in time of peace, compared with its situation in time of war. This observation is easily proved, when applied to some of the chief articles of export,—cattle, potatoes, cider, &c.

During hostilities with France, the principal resources of the island, arose from the expenditure of a large garrison, and from the precarious profits arising from privateering. All the island supplies were during war time, received from England at an enhanced price; beef was 1s. 1d. per lb., bread at 6d., and other articles proportionably dear. Such being the state of things, it was advantageous to the farmer, to raise as many oxen as cows, and to cultivate wheat to the greatest possible extent. High prices ensured him a handsome return; but no sooner did the war terminate, than the island was inundated with French produce. Meat instantly fell to 2½d. and 3d. per lb.; bread to 1d. and 1½d.: the consequence of this, naturally was, that the farmer ceased to rear oxen: the bull calves were killed, and sold as veal; and the cow calves were reared

for the English market. Hence then, the encrease on the exportation of cows.

Again; as it was no longer profitable, at the termination of the war, to cultivate wheat, the land was either thrown into orchards which encreased the quantity of fruit,—the under-grass serving for the feeding of cattle: or else, it was planted with potatoes; and hence the large encrease in the exportation of cider, apples, and potatoes.

In fact, the population of Jersey, is at the present moment, supported by the produce of foreign countries; while the island, in virtue of her privileges, exports to a better market, all articles of her own growth. That such is the case, has already appeared from the enumeration I have made, of articles of consumption imported from France,—live and dead stock,—to which I might have added, 22 tons of hams, 25 tons of dead poultry and game, 70 tons of fresh meat, 110 tons of cheese, and nearly 200 tons of green fruit and vegetables; while at the same time, the grain, potatoes, apples, pears, walnuts, grapes, pine apples, and melons, have been sent to a better market.

I proceed with the enumeration of articles of foreign produce, imported into, and exported from, Jersey.

During the above four years, ending with 1832, there has been imported into Jersey from South America 2,167,347 lbs. of coffee ; of which 1,542,250 lbs. were exported again to the Continent. The excess of coffee imported in the year 1832, over the quantity imported in the year 1831 was nearly 200,000 lbs.

There has been imported from the Brazils, during the above four years 2291 tons of raw sugar, of which 1055 tons have been re-exported. Large quantities of raw sugar, the property of merchants of the island, has also been sent direct from the ports in South America, to Hamburgh, Bremen, Antwerp, and Petersburgh, in Jersey vessels, without being landed in the island. The whole of the refined sugar imported into Jersey, amounting to 206 tons, has been consumed in the island.

Of spice, there has been imported during the above period the enormous quantity of 9097 lbs. of foreign pepper ; 497 lbs. of cloves, 418 lbs. of

cinnamon, and 1433 lbs. of nutmegs; besides 37,727 lbs. of British colonial pepper.

Before coming to the important trade in wines and spirits, and timber,—foreign produce, I will shortly enumerate a few articles of lesser consequence, imported into, and exported from, Jersey, during the period above-named.

Of tallow, 508 tons were imported, of which quantity, were exported 49 tons. Of soap, 30 tons have been imported,—of which 3 tons were re-exported. Of candles, 55 tons have been imported, and 8 tons re-exported. Of oak bark 312 tons have been imported; no part of which was exported, all of it being no doubt used in the leather trade. Of barilla 507 tons have been imported, and 51 exported. Of hemp no less than 676 tons have been imported,—and of cordage 626 tons. Of these 179 tons of hemp have been re-exported, and 200 tons of cordage; leaving an excess of nearly 500 tons of hemp, and of upwards of 400 tons of cordage. But this excess is easily accounted for, when upon farther examining the tables, I find, that there was exported as Jersey manufacture, 326 tons of cordage; and the large

remainder of the excess of hemp and cordage was no doubt used in rigging the shipping of the island, at a cheap rate. Not one pound of British hemp or cordage was imported during the above period.

Connected also with the outfit of the Jersey shipping, is the large import of foreign pitch and tar. 427 barrels of the former, and 3132 barrels of the latter have been imported into Jersey, during the above period; of both of which, but a trifling proportion has been re-exported.

FOREIGN WINES.

I shall first state the gross amount of wines, imported into, and exported from, Jersey, during the above named period; I shall then state the gross amount imported, for the year 1832; and I shall lastly, present the export of that year in detail, distinguishing the wines exported, and the places to which they were respectively exported.

The total amount of wines of all descriptions, imported into Jersey, during the years 1829, 30, 31, and 32, was 436,273 gallons, of which quantity 175,057 gallons, and 23,347 dozens, were re-exported.

The total amount of wines imported during the year 1832, was 126,352 gallons, 93 pipes, 41 hogsheads, 31 quarter casks, 8205 dozens, making in all, nearly one-third of the whole quantity imported during the four years, of which 1832 is the last. The total quantity imported during that year, was 30,564 gallons, and 7584 dozens; of which there was exported:

	Gallons.	Dozens.
To England.....	3694	4844
Guernsey	11173	572
Gibraltar.....	484	432
North America.....	4020	1656
South America.....	4664	3
Trinidad.....	120	——
River Gambia	144	52
Sweden	575	——
Russia.....	8520	57
Prussia	118	——
France (returned)....	336	——

The chief export of wine to Russia, is Spanish; the chief export to North and South America, Spanish and French; the chief export to England, French and Sicilian; the chief export to Guernsey, Spanish, French and Sicilian.

The quantity of foreign brandy imported into Jersey, during the said four years, was 574,268 gallons, of which, only 104,487 gallons, and 452 dozens were exported.

The quantity of hollands imported, was 200,600 gallons, of which only 10,741 gallons were exported; leaving the enormous quantity of 469,980 gallons of brandy, and nearly 190,000 gallons of hollands to be accounted for, by consumption or otherwise. I have before me, an official note of the quantity of spirits actually sold for consumption in the island from March, 1832, to March, 1833. The quantity is 293,528 pots of brandy: 41,470 pots of rum; and 75,745 pots of geneva, in all 410,743 pots of spirits. This, estimating the grown-up male population at 10,000, is an allowance of 41 pots to each individual.

TIMBER.

This is a large article of import; giving most important advantages to the shipowner, who with his foreign timber, added to his foreign hemp and cordage, can build and rig a vessel at a greatly lower rate than a vessel of the same tonnage could be fitted out for, in an English port.

There was imported into Jersey, during the above four years, 130 tons of logwood; 1028 loads of oak timber; 60 loads and 214 tale of

oak plank; 6302 loads of fir timber; 3356 long hundreds of deals; besides a large import of spars, masts, oars, handspikes, stores and tirenails. All of these, with the exception of the logwood, and a few loads of deals, were consumed in ship-building and repairing.

There yet remain a few articles of foreign produce to enumerate, before commencing the enumeration of British, and British colonial produce. These are:

Stained paper,—of which 273,752 yds. have been imported, and 1911 pieces and 28 cwt. exported.

Tiles,—of which 896,316 have been imported, and consumed.

Hats,—of which 8993 glazed, and 6587 chip, have been imported, and of these 5462 glazed, and 354 chip, have been exported.

Linen,—chiefly from Germany,—of which 110,461 yards, and 104 pieces, have been imported, and 3254 yards, re-exported.

Cambric,—of which 4800 yards have been imported,—and none exported.

Cotton,—of which 76,262 yards have been imported,—and only a few 100 yards re-exported.

Silk goods,—of which 21,366 lbs. have been imported, and 486 lbs. re-exported.

Diaper,—of which 29,257 yards were imported, and 3395 yards exported.

Ravenduck,—of which 26,048 yards were imported, and 2076 yards exported.

Flems,—of which 6313 yards were imported, and none exported.

Sheeting,—of which 2155 yards were imported, and none exported.

Sail cloth,—of which 7160 yards, and 24 pieces were imported, and 3656 yards re-exported.

The above six articles are all received from Russia.

Olive oil,—of which 12,787 gallons, and 80 dozens have been imported, and 11,749 gallons, and 754 dozens re-exported.

Tobacco,—of which 571,982 lbs. have been imported, and only 4942 lbs. exported. It is needless to say, that the excess, 567,000 lbs. of tobacco, could not have been consumed in Jersey.

BRITISH, AND BRITISH COLONIAL PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES,

Imported into, and exported from Jersey, during the years 1829, 1830, 1831, and 1832.

I have already, when occupied with Jersey

produce, given the details of the cattle trade, and the import and export of articles of provision. I now proceed to other articles of British, and British Colonial produce, or manufacture.

Tea,—of which 72,073 lbs. were imported.—This article, although not British colonial produce, could not well have been introduced as an article of foreign produce, coming as it does, by way of England, and brought there by English ownership.

Coffee,—of which 288 lbs. were imported.

Refined sugar,—of which 172 tons were imported, and 35 cwt. re-exported.

Rum,—of which 93,731 gallons were imported, and 16,363 gallons re-exported.

Ale, beer, and porter,—of which, have been imported, 4 pipes, 100 hogsheads, 24 casks, 222 barrels, 8 firkins, 13 half-hogsheads, 149 half-barrels, 37 quarter-casks, 33,637 gallons, and 350 dozens. During the same period, 8805 dozens, and 350 gallons were exported as Jersey manufacture.

Hops,—of which 28,081 lbs. were imported,—used no doubt, in the island manufacture of ale and porter.

Rice,—of which 41 tons have been imported.

Soap,—of which 55 tons have been imported, and 320 tons exported.

Candles,—of which 8 tons have been imported, and 16 tons exported.

Lines, and other fishing-tackle,—of which 114 casks, 10 bales, 75 trusses, and 295 packages have been imported,—and all re-exported to British North America, for the use of the fisheries.

Iron,—of which there has been imported 1382 tons, 26,653 bars, besides smaller packages of bar iron; 55 tons of bolt iron; 16 tons of rod iron; 558 tons of pig iron; 18 tons of sheet iron; 74 tons, 1745 pieces, 50 cases, and 339 pipes of cast iron; 114 tons of castings; 205 tons, and various smaller packages of wrought iron; 130 tons of iron hoops; 126 tons, and 244 bags, of iron nails. By far the greater part of this large importation, has been used in the island in ship building, and in other purposes; but a part has also been exported; the principal of which has been 759 tons of bar iron: 64 cwt. of bolt iron; 20 tons of pig iron; 53 tons of cast iron; 94 tons of wrought iron; 26 tons of iron hoops, and 44 tons of nails.

Ironmongery goods,—of which 81 tons have been imported, and 9 tons exported.

Hardware,—of which 34 tons have been imported, and 5 tons exported.

Cutlery,—of which 5 tons have been imported.

Lead,—of which 355 tons have been imported, and 28 tons exported.

Copper,—of which 220 tons have been imported.

China,—2130 pieces.

Stoneware,—7574 pieces.

Pottery,—11,081 pieces.

Earthenware,—367,169 pieces, besides packages; of which 148,990 pieces, and 64 cwt. were exported.

Glass,—of which 66 tons of flint glass, 54 tons of window glass, 389 tons and 800 dozens of bottles have been imported, and 1476 dozens of bottles exported.

Books,—10 tons.

Writing paper,—28 tons; with 8 tons, and many packages of stationery.

Painters' colours,—116 tons, 20 casks, 483 kegs, and 107 packages.

Tin,—6 tons; and of tin plate, 102,331 tale.

Umbrellas,—195 dozen.

Hats,—7762 tale, besides packages.

Woollen goods and haberdashery,—19 tons, besides boxes, cases, and packages.

Cotton haberdashery,—11 tons.

Worsted,—18 tons.

Blanketing,—18,764 yards, 19 casks, 2 trusses, 172 pieces,—of which there has been exported 1070 blankets, and 261 yards.

Flannel,—41,549 yards, and 19 bales,—of which, only 2299 yards were re-exported; but the large surplus, although not exported as flannel, finds its way to the Continent in the shape of petticoats: for this is an article which every French market woman from the adjacent ports, supplies herself with from Jersey.

Carpeting,—15,962 yards.

Woollens,—31,414 yards, 1455 pieces, 2187 ends, and 15 bales,—of which 44,554 yards, 286 pieces, and 30 ends were exported.

Cloth,—2446 yards, 1185 pieces, 189 ends,—of which, 3801 yards were exported.

Stuffs,—251 pieces, and 151 ends.

Linen,—174,535 yards,—of which, 33,311 yds. were exported.

Muslin,—5220 yards,—of which 1789 yards were exported.

Cotton,—445,219 yards, 28 cwt., 7 trusses, 11 bales, 29 pieces imported,—of which, 156,736 yards, 4 cwt. and 356 pieces were exported.

British printed calico,—235,332 yards imported, and scarcely any part re-exported.

Printed British calico,—105,971 yards.

Duck,—2700 yards, of which 2370 yards were exported.

Sail cloth for bounty,—160,111 yards and 151 bolts.

Ditto, not for bounty,—10,167 yards, 92 bolts and 20 pieces.

Silk goods,—4297 lbs.

Silk and cotton goods,—2390 lbs.

Silk and worsted goods,—1943 lbs.

Floor cloth,—2400 yards.

Fish oil,—190,901 gallons, 9 pipes and 6 casks, —all from Newfoundland, and the greater part re-exported.

Codfish,—95,210 quintals; 1154 barrels; 150 half-barrels; 129 tons, and 29 firkins; of which immense importation, 45,736 quintals; 90 bar-

rels, and 54 half-barrels were exported. But this importation, large as it is, is inconsiderable when compared with the trade in codfish, carried on by Jersey owned vessels, direct from Newfoundland to the ports of the Mediterranean.

A large article of Jersey export, is ready-made clothes to British North America,—particularly, to Newfoundland and New Brunswick. The Jersey merchants, as I have, I believe, elsewhere observed, have extensive establishments in these colonies, to which the articles in question are sent. The returns are made in oil, fish, seal-skins, and furs, part of which is sent to Jersey; but the greater part, direct to Spain, Portugal, and Italy; and the produce of these countries,—the proceeds of the cargoes sold there,—are carried to the ports of the Baltic, &c., from whence, in return, a supply of wheat, flour, &c., is brought to Jersey. The ready-made articles exported to British North America, are, with some trifling exceptions, made up in Jersey, chiefly from British manufactures; of which, the following, exported during the four years above-named, is an enumeration.

Suits of clothes,—559 of cloth, 24 of cotton.

Jackets,—1679 of woollen, 209 of cloth, 24 of cotton, and 62 of linen.

Waistcoats,—2521 of worsted; 756 of woollen; 123 of cloth, and 41 of linen.

Pairs of trowsers,—2705 of woollen, 231 of cloth, 167 of cotton, and 2058 of linen.

Pairs of drawers,—3524 of woollen, and 65 of linen.

Shirts,—14,549 of cotton; 2288 of woollen; 279 of linen.

Pairs of stockings,—5139 of worsted; 240 of cotton.

Mitts,—1813 worsted.

Cravats,—1478 worsted; 330 woollen.

Caps,—1832 woollen; 464 worsted.

Handkerchiefs,—10,971 cotton; 1640 silk.

Shawls,—1264 cotton; 20 cloth; 83 woollen; 63 worsted.

Counterpanes,—324 cotton.

Table cloths,—97 woollen.

I have already stated the export of boots and shoes, which however, being made of French leather, do not enter into the above enumeration.

I have omitted to state the export of mahogany,

535 tons of which, were imported from Honduras during the foresaid years, the greater part of which was again exported to the Continent. And there was also imported from the British settlements on river Gambia, 336 loads of African teak, 84 loads of which were exported.

EAST INDIA GOODS IMPORTED INTO JERSEY FROM ENGLAND.

Nankeen,—4574 pieces. All the articles that follow, are piece goods; I shall therefore not add the word pieces to each; but it must be understood, that all the figures prefixed to the articles,—shawls, bandanoes, or handkerchiefs, for example, mean, so many shawl pieces, or bandanoe pieces.

Crape,—93 gowns; 2104 shawls; 521 shawls, silk wrought; 158 handkerchiefs; 211 silk wrought; 484 single handkerchiefs.

China crape,—76.

Silks,—291 handkerchiefs; 88 shawls; 204 romals checked; 52 tressah cloth; 121 china; 29 do. handkerchiefs; 52 sarrees; 37 Lutstring; 20 Florentine.

Limgee romals,—29.

Cotton romals,—888.

Salampores,—1706.

Printed corahs,—727.

Bandanoes,—1063.

Tafaties,—147.

Long cloths,—1673.

Damask,—33.

Nicanees,—172.

Mulmulls,—32.

Soosays,—286.

Neganpants,—33.

Nilloes,—102.

Of which large importation, there appears to have been exported, only 12 pieces and 153 yds. of nankeen. 4 pieces of crape shawls; 4 silk handkerchief pieces; 43 cotton Romai pieces; 93 salampore pieces; 1 printed; 30 bandanoe pieces, and 12 pieces of long cloth.

It may well be asked what becomes of the surplus,—of the 4500 pieces of nankeen; of the 1000 pieces of bandanoes; of the 2700 shawl pieces; of 1100 other handkerchief pieces; of the 1600 salampore pieces, &c., &c. Jersey, whose native inhabitants are so economical, and where the

British residents have, one and all, gone to economize, is not the place for an extensive consumption of East India goods.

The oyster trade of Jersey deserves a particular notice. It employs, as I have elsewhere said, 1500 men, 1000 women and children, and 250 boats; thus giving employment, and providing subsistence to a large and industrious class. The quantity of oysters sent from the Jersey fisheries to the English ports, during the above-named four years, was respectively as follows:

Years.	Bushels.
1829	239,120
1830	212,056
1831	217,676
1832	163,240

Independently of the articles enumerated, as imported from Great Britain, and from the British colonies, there were imported during the same period, 10,269 bales, casks, chests, hampers, &c., the contents of which were not specially distinguished; but which contained similar articles with those of British manufacture which have been separately classed.

Such is a general view of the extent and nature

of the trade of Jersey: to which I would add, a very few observations tending to show, how and to what extent, the trade of Jersey is influenced by the commercial privileges which the island enjoys.

The first privilege which I shall recapitulate, is that, by which she is enabled to export her produce to England, as British produce. This privilege is most invaluable, in conjunction with the other privilege of importing foreign produce duty free; since, as I have already observed, and shown by the details given, the consumption of the island, is supplied from foreign countries,—while the produce of the island, raised upon untaxed land, and with cheap labour, is sent to the British ports, with the same advantages as if the vessels and cargoes were British. I shall not suppose, that any foreign produce is sent to England, as the produce of Jersey; there is sufficient advantage to the agriculturist, as well as to the trade of the island, without any illicit commerce. At the same time, it will be admitted, that the temptation to export wheat or flour to England, which has been purchased in the Baltic at so cheap a rate, is considerable.

The privilege of importing into Jersey, articles of foreign produce, not prohibited, duty free, is no less advantageous to the trade of the island. It has been seen, by the details given, how large a proportion of articles of foreign produce has been re-exported; and these, the Jersey merchant can afford to sell in foreign ports, or in English ports, at a lower rate than they can be sold for by others who have obtained them in the countries where they are produced: because the Jersey merchant has no expense of bonding,—and scarcely any charges to pay, of wharfage and harbour dues. He carries his cargo direct to his warehouse,—and sends it, at his own time, with all its advantages, to another market. And, besides that the absence of charges upon merchandize enables him to find a remunerating market, —the same privilege of which I am speaking,— that of importing foreign commodities duty free,— gives him additional advantages in re-exporting such commodities, by the opportunity thus afforded him, of building, rigging, fitting out and provisioning his vessels with materials collected wherever in the world he can buy them the cheapest, and which he imports free of duty.

Nor is it a less important privilege than these, that Jersey may export to the British colonies, articles the produce *or* manufacture of the island. This, even unconnected with the power of importing foreign produce, duty free, would be an important privilege; but when taken in connexion with that other power, it gives to Jersey, advantages which are only limited by her capital and population. Hitherto, indeed, these advantages have been confined to the export of dressed leather, boots and shoes, ready made clothes, flour,—all, less or more manufactured from foreign produce: but there is no article of British manufacture, from foreign produce, that with capital, Jersey could not fabricate and export, with equal advantage,—underselling the British manufacturer in the colonial market.

CHAPTER XI.

ON HEALTH AND DISEASE IN JERSEY, IN RELATION TO THE INFLUENCES OF CLIMATE, &c.

By Matthew Scholefield, M. D. and M. B. : Jersey.
Late President of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh.

[The author of this work, not being himself conversant with the science of medicine, has judged it best, on so important a subject as the diseases of these islands, to call in the aid of persons, competent by their professional education, to undertake the duty. Of the ability with which the task has been executed, it is not for him to express any opinion.]

SECTION I.

The statistics of the diseases of Jersey, present in general much uniformity with those of England. The difference in the diseases of England and Jersey, although greater than that seen in the diseases of any two contiguous counties of the former, is probably not greater than what presents itself in counties equally removed from each

other in their local peculiarities, and by their geographical position. Pathologically too, I consider the diseases of the two countries, as, for the most part, identical; whether in regard to the broad outline of their nosological character, or in reference to the application of those great curative principles, proper to be adopted in each country.

In the pathology and statistics of a few diseases however, a marked difference is perceptible to the eye of him who has attentively considered these diseases as they are exhibited in this, and in the parent island. But this discrepancy is visible only in a few maladies; and in such chiefly, as, in England, are found to be at all times influenced by locality,—by vicissitudes of temperature,—and by differences in the moral and economic habitudes of the people; the corresponding diversity among diseases, produced by the combination of these causes, being ever found most clearly marked, where these causes are most direct and powerful in their operation.

The full and scientific analysis of my subject would embrace the consideration of the diseases of Jersey under three heads:

First, as these diseases affect the people in the rural districts.

Next, as they are exhibited in the natives residing in St. Helier;

And lastly, as they are found to influence the British residents.

Did the limits of this enquiry permit, much that is interesting to the general as well as the scientific reader, might doubtless be said on each of these subjects; and I shall have occasion, as I proceed, continually to refer to each: but my design demands that I should more particularly insist upon the last heads; and detail, with some precision, the effects which the climate of this island exerts upon the health and diseases of the residents of St. Helier.

My enquiry naturally divides itself into two parts. The first comprehends the enumeration of those diseases which are more frequently the objects of medical practice here than in England. The second includes a specification of such as are of less frequent occurrence; or which are marked by a less degree of severity. The investigation of the probable causes of these differences also

falls within my limits. The general pathology or the particular treatment of these diseases forms no part of my design; from which, only in one instance, have I been tempted to depart.

In entering upon my subject I must begin by claiming the indulgence of the general reader. It will be my endeavour to make myself throughout as perspicuous and intelligible as possible, by resorting to general terms and phrases, wherever I can do so without injury to my subject: for I am well aware, that although, in the science of medicine, a distinct nomenclature is indispensible, in order to confer upon it that precision of language and of ideas, necessary to be observed among those who propose to advance its interests, by advancing it certainly,—yet, with the technical phraseology of our art, the mere gentleman, or even the accomplished scholar cannot reasonably be supposed to be very familiar; while it is to such readers, as well as to the more scientific, that these pages will be submitted.*

* Milton in his "Tractate of Education" declares that every scholar and every gentleman ought to be conversant with the general "Institutes of Medicine;" and especially every military officer; in order, as he says, that in emergencies he may be able "to prevent his soldiers from falling around him like sickly feathers from a moulting bird;" and that "he may know how to cure a crudity."

SECTION II.

The diseases then, of the most frequent occurrence in Jersey, or which are marked by some peculiarities of character, are the following:—rheumatism, chiefly chronic: hæpatitis, or liver disease; also, for the most part, chronic; and generally functional, rather than structural: hypochondriasis, or melancholy: dyspepsia, and dropsy: and, in the class of fevers, the milder forms of the remittent; the slow typhöid; and the intermittent.

Besides these diseases, the physician, who has examined, with a critical and scrutinizing eye, the influence, in both countries, excited by the epidemics arising in different seasons, upon the phazes and character of the diseases of common occurrence, cannot fail to have remarked, that not only are those epidemics more prevalent here than in the counties of England, but that they also exercise a more marked influence upon the contemporaneous diseases. So true indeed is this remark, that among the class of febrile and inflammatory diseases, it is seldom we meet with an isolated case; such diseases generally occur-

ring in groups; or, at least, such as are met with in the vicinity of a case of highly marked character, having generally a striking resemblance to that case; either in some anomalous symptom, —in the periods of their exacerbation,—in their progress,—or in the length of their duration.

The cause of this singularity, I shall endeavour in part to explain; and from such explanation it will be seen, that as in some other diseases, particularly affecting the resident, the fault is often attributable to himself, and the means of prevention, if not of cure, lie partly within his power: so here also, it is highly probable, that much might be done by art, to obviate the universality of epidemics in their influence on other diseases: and that the road to such improvement in the sanatory condition of the island, is actually beginning to be laid open; as will appear more fully hereafter.

The first disease to which I shall refer, is rheumatism; since I believe it is admitted on all hands, that there is none prevalent in the island, to which both natives and residents are so extensively liable. Among the people in the rural

districts, it is universal after the age of thirty: and as a protection against its attacks, the field-labourers (who are of both sexes) resort generally to flannel as a clothing. This is the more conspicuous from its colour, which is uniformly red; since it is a common opinion, and perhaps therefore, not without some foundation in truth (interdum vulgus rectum videt), that the colour of the flannel is as instrumental as the fabric itself, towards proving a safeguard and protection against rheumatism.

Among the British residents, the disease, though less general is still very prevalent. Its form is for the most part chronic;—few instances presenting themselves of that severely acute form, which requires the prompt and vigorous use of the lancet. In one respect also, it is somewhat peculiar; for, as it often attacks the joints of the fingers, wrists and ancles, the definition "Genua et reliquos majores, potius quam pedum et manuum articulos infestans" is here inapplicable.

Among the causes (hereafter detailed) that predispose the body to rheumatism, or that directly excite it, by far the most influential is the great

humidity of the atmosphere in Jersey. This is a fact well known to ironmongers and cutlers, who scrupulously avoid exposing any valuable wares in the windows of their shops: while polished steel fire ranges are rarely to be met with; since they demand the unceasing vigilance of servants to preserve them from rusting even during the summer months.

To the production of this humidity several causes conspire. These it is important to bring under review; as being of moment, in the elucidation of every part of my subject. Besides its insular position, the island is every where thick set with wood;—every little section of ground (the property of some cotter) being hedged in with four rows of trees. The island moreover being continually intersected at intervals of a few hundred yards by pathways, beset with their double file of trees, planted on embankments, so high as to intercept the view from the top of the loftiest carriage, after the rains of autumn have commenced, these pathways (the ancient roads of the island) remain constantly wet during the whole of the winter; since neither can the rays of the

sun penetrate, nor can currents of air freely ventilate the earth. Occasionally the trees are felled; but even then, the stocks are left so high that, with the aid of the lofty embankments, they effectually impede all ventilation. Other causes yet remain behind: an imperfect system of drainage; or no drainage at all: the prevalence of winds from the south-west, blowing directly up the channel from across the Atlantic Ocean—impregnated with moisture and with saline particles that cause the moisture to be more slowly dissipated into vapour: the great recession of the tide at low water, leaving all around the island a vast extent (in some parts miles) of bare rocks and sands; from which saline vapours largely arise, in consequence of the comparative warmth of the temperature even during the winter months; while these vapours are scattered in all directions by currents of air arising from the great diversity of the island in hill and dale.

The town of St. Helier too (the great resort of the residents) is perhaps, in this respect unfavourably placed;—standing on the southern shore of the island and, so to speak, at the neck of a spine

of vallies that intersect it through its whole extent. From its southern aspect therefore, as well as from its position at the thin margin of a wedge of land that gradually slopes down to the sea from a distance of three or four miles northward, it is not improbable that the clouds and vapours are attracted over it by the meridian sun; and are in part intercepted, on arriving at the shore, by those lofty forts that block up the town towards the sea; and that so materially obstruct the free transmission of air, and the dissipation of unwholesome fogs and vapours. Be this however, as it may, I am assured by a most intelligible friend, that a fall of rain at St. Helier (the country three miles northward remaining dry) is a circumstance of more frequent occurrence than the reverse: while an ascent to the neighbouring heights, at any hour either of the day or night, shows the town to be frequently enveloped in fogs when the inhabitants are themselves but little aware of it.

The conclusion to which by reasoning a priori we should be led respecting the humidity of this climate, hygrometric observations have long fully established.

The consideration of the manner in which extreme humidity of the atmosphere acts in predisposing the body to attacks of rheumatism, or in actually exciting them, would belong to an abstract work on the science of medicine. That such however is the fact, is known to all: while it must also be admitted, that this humidity is rendered still more general in these parts, by the comparative warmth of the climate during the winter months. For here, we rarely witness any of those long and bracing frosts that are so invigorating to the body in the more northern latitudes; and which, even in Holland, are found to dissipate for months, the languid fogs of winter.

I have been the more minute in pointing out the causes of that humidity, so universally felt and complained of, particularly by the residents, from being persuaded that much may be done towards removing it, by the resources of art. This will be obvious by glancing back to the above enumeration of its causes; for, although the local legislature of Jersey, in all its wisdom and omnipotence, is unable to change the course

of the winds, or to command the out-goings of the ocean, yet, I trust I shall be pardoned for stating my belief that, it is very possible for that patriotic body to effect much. It is competent, for instance, in that assembly to pass laws for establishing a system of universal drainage: to order the felling of trees and the lopping of branches that block up the highways; and to cause the removal of those lofty embankments, that every where intercept the view of the traveller; and prevent both sun and air from penetrating the quagmires, called roads, that lie between them; and which, being now no longer wanted as defences against the invasions of the French, seem at present to serve no other purpose than to preserve. unmolested, during half the year, those fœtid and unwholesome airs that are generated from the slow decomposition of an exuberant foliage; and thus, if not actually to sow the seeds of disease, at least to contribute in the most certain and effectual manner, to render the human body more obnoxious to its attacks, less able to support itself under them, and more slow and lingering in its convalescence.

And here it gives me great pleasure to be enabled to state, that both the legislature and the more influential inhabitants at large of Jersey, have lately begun, with patriotic and praiseworthy zeal, to open out a channel for such improvements in the sanatory condition of the island by the establishment of an "agricultural society," founded upon liberal and extensive views, and under the highest patronage. It is with peculiar satisfaction that I here refer to this new institution; as I presume that those measures, to which I have just alluded, for the general improvement of the health of the island, will fall legitimately within its scope and comprehension: while, from the patronage extended to it, by the legislature, and from the ardent zeal and distinguished ability manifested by its founders and promoters, I have the strongest assurance that the important suggestions here offered, will not be permitted to pass unregarded.

Admitting, as I do most fully, the fact, that a damp atmosphere is a very general predisposing cause of rheumatism, (and damp, as applied to the body, is synonymous with cold) I cannot quite

agree with a distinguished writer of the day, in thinking it the *only* cause. Everything tending to debilitate the general constitutional energies, tends doubtless to render the body more susceptible of the action of causes, that would otherwise be inert. Hence a predisposition to this disease is doubtless given to many of the residents, by the practice (too general among them) of nightly visitings; in returning from which they are unavoidably exposed to the damps and fogs of the midnight air,—and that too at a time when the mind is exhausted and spiritless; and the body relaxed by exposure, for hours, to the unwholesome air of crowded apartments. Among the rural population again, two causes, of a very different kind, claim our notice under this head. The former is the severity of their field labours, in conjunction with an impoverished diet; the latter is the extensive use of ardent spirits, as appears indubitably from statistical tables, drawn up elsewhere. from official sources. It is natural that the labourer, being the owner of the little plot of land which he cultivates, and to which he trusts as his only maintenance and support, should

assiduously strive to make the most of it; and that too with a degree of interest unfelt by one who labours for hire, and is careless of the results. The crops that he grows are destined for the supply of his own family: should one of them fail, that article, however great a necessary of life, is so much cut off from the year's provisions; since land, not money, is the patrimony of the cottager. Hence I am informed, by unquestionable authority, that hundreds of the smaller farmers (the labouring class) live, for months together, upon a diet consisting of a dark brown bread, cider largely diluted with water, and a soup made of kail or cabbage, lubricated with a morsel of the fat of bacon,—the leaner parts being reserved for holidays. Such a diet is obviously insufficient for the support of the body under field labours, often continued almost unremittingly for 14, 16, 18, or even 20 hours. It is not therefore surprising, that they should be found resorting to the use of ardent spirits, in order, as they express it, "to give them heart;" and especially, since the low price of alkohol, under all its forms, offers in Jersey an almost irresistible temptation to

the poor cotter to "steep his labours in forgetfulness." *

I have already said, that rheumatic fever is of less frequent occurrence in these parts than the chronic or sub-acute form: and I am assured by other medical gentlemen of long experience, that they do not remember one instance of a metastasis of rheumatism to the heart.

Hepatic or bilious diseases come next to be considered; being next in the frequency of their occurrence here as compared with England. However extraordinary the announcement may at first appear, the views which I shall open on this subject, tend to associate these affections closely with those that have just occupied our consideration; for it will be seen that the hepatic derangement to which, under this head, I make particular reference, owes its origin, in all probability, to the same causes that give birth to the sub-acute form of rheumatism; and is actually accompanied by many of its symptoms: and that there is even strong ground for believing it to be, in fact, if not a metastasis of rheumatism, at least

* A gallon of brandy, distilled from parsnips or mangel wurzel, may be bought here for half a crown or three shillings.

an extension of that disease to the liver. Liver disease presents itself under two distinct forms. The first is the chronic or sub-acute form; or, more frequently still, symptoms of structural disorganization of the liver consequent on that state. This is common among the subordinate classes of natives, among whom, beyond doubt, partial induration of the liver is very general. Hence the prevalence of hydropic disease under all its forms.

But it is to the second kind of hepatic affection that I am solicitous more particularly to direct the attention of the faculty. This kind shows itself mainly under the form of functional derangement of this viscus, and of those organs, in its propinquity, that co-operate towards its function. It is thus characterized. A person after some brief and obscure manifestations usual in the commencement of pyrexial disease, is attacked by sickness and vomiting. A dull pain is referred to the right shoulder, the epigastrium, and the right hypochondrium. This is increased by pressure on those regions. The tongue is white and furred at the sides. The pulse is nearly na-

tural; the urine is reddish, and deposits largely on standing. The eyes are lively but yellow; the countenance is sallow, and the bowels at first open but afterwards costive. The vomiting comes on irregularly:—occasionally three or four times a day; at other times twenty: and, after a day or two, bile is discernible in the egesta. The constitutional derangement is not urgent: and the functions of the sensorium are not disturbed; although vertigo is sometimes present, and pain is often referred to the scalp, the cheek, or jaw of one side. These symptoms vary as to the length of their continuance; sometimes ceasing within four or five days;—at others extending to as many weeks. But the health of the patient is re-established; and frequently remains for a time better than before the attack; which however, in a month or two, generally recurs from some slight cause; and again runs through the circuit of its course.

These symptoms, however, are rarely present simultaneously, or even in the same case; and some of them are occasionally altogether absent. The disease chiefly affects persons between the

ages of twenty and fifty; and generally such as have been previously subject to rheumatism. But what especially marks the relationship of this disease with rheumatism (in addition to many of the symptoms detailed, which will be recognized as belonging to the latter) is this: that it is often consecutive upon fugitive pains, shifting from joint to joint, or lodging in the region of some of the great aponeurotic or ligamentous expansions of the back or trunk; or else it is actually accompanied by such pains,—the latter being by far the more frequent occurrence. In three cases, however, I have known this disease put an end to attacks of rheumatism that had for many years before greatly harassed the individuals, on any sudden changes of the wind to any particular quarters,—or of the moisture and temperature of the atmosphere. Lastly, the two diseases are assimilated in another respect,—being both prevalent in the same season; and under a similitude of circumstances as touching the habits and locality of the persons affected by them.

These points of analogy in the symptoms, are, I think, sufficiently close and numerous to war-

rant the opinion here advanced, that those disorders of the chylopoïetic viscera, attended with vomitings, and which are so universally met with in Jersey, and often in some of the damper counties of England also, are in truth, only another form of rheumatism : but one in which that disease, instead of being seated in the aponeuroses and ligamentous expansions of the large joints of the limbs and trunk, has its seat in the fibrous capsule of the liver; and hence comes, at length, to involve the other tissues of that gland on whose action the function of the organ depends.

Being well aware of the deep interest attached to an opinion involving a total change in our pathological views of an important class of diseases, I shall submit my views on this matter to the medical world, at greater length and in another form. From the views that I shall there develope, it will be seen, that the derangements in the function of the liver in these diseases although primarily arising from sub-acute inflammation of the fibrous tissues abovementioned, more immediately results from an extension of the inflammatory action along the dense cellular membrane

investing (like an arterial coat) the ramifications of the portal veins; since it is acknowledgedly from these veins, (whose functions be it remembered are arterial), that, in the parenchyma of the liver, the bile is ultimately secreted: in the same manner as other secretions are formed from the capillary extremities of the arteries—the seat of other kinds of inflammation elsewhere.*

It is obvious that the views here developed, are of extended application in practice. But here my limits compel me to be silent. For, independently of the medical treatmnet to be pursued in this class of diseases, we come also more clearly to understand in what way it happens that dyspeptic disease—the result of derangements of the hepatic system—are so much more generally met with in damp and variable climates than in those of an opposite character.†

* Dr. Bailey asks the following question. "As this vein (the vena portæ) performs the office of an artery in the liver, is it not possible, that its small branches take on the same actions as the small branches of an artery during inflammation." To this I reply, beyond all doubt: and the result must be an increased secretion of bile; precisely as in ordinary inflammation, the distended arterial capillaries elsewhere relieve themselves by an effusion of lymph, serum or pus. This is the view which I maintained in my "Inaugural Dissertation," before the senatus academicus of Edinborough, in the year 1822; and also before the regius professor of medicine in Cambridge, in 1832.

† It will be observed that I have confined my observations to the liver. But it is obvious that the fibrous capsules of the

Nor is it more difficult hence to explain how the hydropic diathesis should be so prevalent in Jersey, when we reflect that of all the causes of dropsy, none is so universal as that of obstruction in the liver; whether that arises directly from schirrhus (as it is improperly named), resulting from the too abundant use of ardent spirits, or from continued functional derangement of the hepatic viscera, leading ultimately to disorganization of structure.

I pass on to another disease, closely allied to the former of these; and of especial prevalence in these parts. Hypochondriasis, a malady so general among the British residents, results, I am inclined to suspect, less from what may be called the physical condition of the island, than from the habitudes of those who are afflicted with it. In the brief allusion therefore which I shall make to it, my observations will assume a moral,

other splanchnic viscera are also liable to the rheumatic inflammation. But the obscurity that surrounds the functions of some of these—as the spleen and supra-renal capsules—has prevented us from detecting in them the existence of these morbid conditions: and, even in the liver, since these diseases seldom terminate fatally, but few opportunities are offered for verifying these conditions by pathological researches after death. The accumulated evidence from other sources however, I regard as sufficiently decisive to be made the basis of our reasonings on the practical steps proper to be pursued in the treatment of these diseases.

rather than a medical character. However, I must not omit to mention, that frequent derangements of the chylopoïetic organs, from the causes already brought under review, have, it is well established, a very decided influence in depressing the energies of the mind; and in spreading an undue degree of gloom and melancholy at once over the enjoyments of the present, and the prospects of the future.

That hypochondriasis should be a malady extensively spread among the British residents, is not surprising, when we consider the position of that class of society among which the residents are comprehended. Of these, by far the majority are gentlemen belonging to the two branches of the military profession. Having been engaged in their arduous duties,—prosecuted in most instances for years in distant climes,—most of these gentlemen have returned to their homes with health irreparably impaired, either by the insalubrity of the climates in the southern latitudes,—so incongenial to European constitutions,—or by the vicissitudes of temperature, to which, in the various service of their country, they have of ne-

cessity been oftentimes exposed. Confined now within the narrow limits of an island, which denies them all resort to the healthy and accustomed sports of the field, they find themselves as it were dependent upon each other for their occupation and amusements. The very transition from active and enterprising duties, to luxurious and unsought repose, is of itself a state that demands all the exertions of a well stored and well regulated mind to be easily endurable. Hence the unceasing round of evening parties, protracted often until the dawn of another day; thus breaking in upon the proper hours of rest; exhausting the spirits; and debilitating the physical energies of the body.

The town too, and neighbourhood of St. Helier, are not the most favourably placed for affording the means of exercise, so necessary for keeping up the vigour of the animal frame, and breaking in upon the monotony of life: and particularly to those whose previous lives have been passed in arms, amid the stirring scenes of the ocean or the camp. The immediate coast is rocky; and of dangerous approach, unless under the guidance of an expert pilot. Hence, few

persons keep boats, or even indulge in the pleasant recreation of sailing round the shores. Nor is there any ground, conveniently set apart by the authorities, for the public exercising of the people; where the inhabitants might indulge in those healthy sports, &c., which are so much resorted to in England. Nor is there any public drive; or any gay promenade, offering a temptation to the indolent, to enjoy the pleasures of the open air.

It must however be admitted, that of the facilities which St. Helier does afford, neither the residents nor the other inhabitants appear to take due advantage. The narrow, dirty, and ill-paved streets appear to be the only resort of fashion; and the Royal Square,—a paved area one hundred yards by fifty in extent, and hermetically sealed up with houses all around,—is regarded, by the male population, as a second grove of academus.

To all this however, the pic nic parties, formed in the summer season, are a laudable exception; for it must be admitted, that in wandering about the shores of the island, the resident takes the

most judicious means for dissipating the languor arising from confinement in the drawing-room.

Nor does there appear to me, any good reason why these salutary excursions should be confined to the land: since the sea at high water almost overflows the loftiest rocks, and fills the shores up to the brim; while the pleasures of the rod and line are by no means limited exclusively to the banks of a stream.

I shall only further observe on this head, that St. Helier affords facilities of no common kind, for exercises and amusements, sub pleno Jove *; and it is in the last degree desirable that the authorities, and more public spirited inhabitants, should coalesce in forwarding such insular improvements, as, by consulting public health, might offer new inducements (in addition to those grounded on economic views) to an extended residence of the British; by whom the prosperity of the island has been of late years so largely advanced.

* Hic securd quies, et nescia fallere vita,
Dives opum variarum, hic latis otia fundis,
Speluncæ, vivique lacus; hic frigida tempe,
Mugitus que boum, mollesque sub arbore somni.

From the statistical details above entered into, the reader will not be surprised to hear that intermittent fever is familiarly known in these parts. The parishes in which it is most frequent are those of Grouville and St. Peter. In the former there is a marshy common two or three miles in circumference; bounded on all sides, except towards the eastern sea, (its aspect,) by an amphitheatre of hills, abounding in wood: while the latter expands by several marshy vallies into a wide plain opening towards the southern sea, (its aspect) the vallies being hemmed in by lofty hills. Isolated cases of this fever are also occasionally witnessed in other parishes; particularly after falls of rain, ensuing on long droughts—a circumstance not unusual during the summer and autumn months. The style of the disease is seldom nosologically complete; such, for instance, as we see it in the counties of Lincoln, Lancaster, Cambridge and Hertford: while, in many cases, the disease is imperfectly shadowed forth, not as a genuine idiopathic affection, but only as a condition influencing other diseases that happen to arise: either by exciting quotidian or tertian exa-

cerbations in their symptoms; by increasing the debility beyond what is usual in such affections elsewhere or in other seasons; or by protracting their cure beyond the usual period.*

Before quitting this part of my subject, I must not omit to mention, that the "autumnal bilious remittent fever," of British authors, although very unusual, has certainly been seen in Jersey. Three cases of this disease were last autumn brought under my notice by my amiable friend, Mr. Le Gros, surgeon, late of Trinity. That the

* I have alluded to the influence which the epidemics of all seasons have in modifying the character of other contemporaneous diseases. This important subject was first brought under the notice of the faculty by the great Sydenham in his work on "the diseases of London." But the subject is mentioned by him only incidentally. This influence is referred to what Sydenham calls the "constitutio epidemica;" by which he means, not the epidemic constitution of the disease but of the air. The spirit of the remark is however strictly accurate: and I know of no opinion, ever laid down among physicians, which is of equal importance in its practical bearings. Nor is the opinion true only of epidemics: it is equally applicable to the constitutions that give birth to intermittent, remittent and the typhöid fever. In which opinion, as regards the first of these, I find myself supported by a luminous writer of the present day; who has judiciously remarked. "These conditions of the soil are not merely the occasions of ague, but serve to modify the character of continued and of any other febrile disease which may happen to occur in such situations."

disease is unual, appears from the fact, that any similar cases had never before come under the care of that gentleman; or of any of his medical friends, of whom enquiries on the subject were made. The symptoms in these three cases were all nearly identical. They were as follow: extreme irritability of the stomach, attended with bilious vomitings several times a day; head-ache; yellowness of the conjunctiva; small quick pulse; and delirium, though not extreme, during the nights. The cases occurred consecutively in the members of the same family; but varied, in the length of their continuance, from two weeks to two months. Two other cases subsequently occurred; and all of them ultimately recovered. In one instance the spleen was remarkably enlarged; and less so in another; but the most marked peculiarity was the vomiting, which continued, night and day, at no regular intervals during the whole disease. The disease came on after rains ensuing on a long-continued drought; and in a lofty part of the island; but not far from extensive marshy grounds; and in a spot where ventilation was totally prevented by the

luxuriance of vegetation and foliage. How a mitigated form of this disease should have occurred in Jersey will be easily understood from the following quotation. "But these diseases prevail extensively where there are no marshes. *There* however it will always be found that there is something equivalent to a marsh; either a subsoil of such a nature as will not allow water to percolate easily through it; or an extent of wood, impeding thorough ventilation, and the action of the sun's rays, or excessive dampness with heat, or a total inattention to drainage and culture."

Dr. Madden, in speaking of remittent fever in another part of the world, observes, "it occurs chiefly where there is a saline incrustation with rank verdure."

The statistics of Jersey, detailed in some of the former pages, supply the commentary to these judicious observations.

I have referred to intermittent and remittent fever in Jersey, not from anything remarkable in the diseases themselves; but because the influence on other contemporaneous diseases, of those causes that give birth to them, is decidedly more general

and more direct than I have ever seen it in any of the English counties. An explanation of this phenomenon, at least highly probable, if not altogether satisfactory, might I believe be given, did the limits of this design admit of it. Without however, entering further upon the subject at present, I will remark, that it is to the operations of the *Society* above referred to, that we must, I believe, look for the complete solution of this question as regards Jersey; and to a lustration of the island, from the miasmata that unquestionably occasion these tedious and formidable maladies.

SECTION III.

Having in the foregoing section adverted to those diseases in which either in their frequency, or severity, the disadvantage is on the side of Jersey, I proceed next (as far as my brief limits will permit) to speak of those in which the disadvantage is on the other side. The diseases which I shall in consequence have occasion to pass rapidly under review, are the following:

The whole class of phlegmasiæ, or inflammations; the vesaniæ, or mental diseases; apoplexy;

and paralysis, arising as its sequel; and lastly, phthisis pulmonalis, or consumption.

It must, I think, be admitted, by all who are competent by education and personal observation to speak on this subject, that, in the class of inflammatory diseases, we here seldom witness that highly acute form which but too frequently marks the earlier stages of these in England; and which demands, on the part of the physician, the most prompt and energetic employment of the lancet. In the words of the late Dr. Edwards (an acute observer of disease), "the Jerseyman is unable to bear bleeding." This perhaps arises from the fact, that his diseases do not require it; at least to that extent to which it is so often indispensably necessary to be carried in England. The remark is also equally applicable to the British resident, whose constitution (whether from the effects of his residence in this or in other climates) seems equally unable to bear up in disease, under severe depletion, by large and repeated abstractions of blood. This is doubtless in part attributable to a decided difference in the type of inflammations, as exhibited

here and in England. In the latter country the symptomatic fever that accompanies inflammation is almost universally what is denominated the synocha—a form indeed of fever which, in this day, is rarely or never met with idiopathically. But, as may be understood from the opinions advanced in the preceding section, the accompanying fever in these parts seems, in many respects, to take on the intermittent, the remittent, or the typhöid character: so that the inflammation would often seem to be rather an accidental disease, supervening in the course of such fever. And such doubtless it is in by far the majority of cases; and hence I would in part explain the inadmissibility of copious and repeated bleedings in the inflammations of Jersey: for it is obvious that under the views and circumstances named, we have, in truth, less to fear from the inflammation, than from the symptomatic fever that accompanies it. But even where the local inflammation is clearly defined, and the symptomatic fever runs high, this soon begins to assume the type of synochus; and warns the physician to pause before resuming the lancet. In short,

inflammation here generally assumes the form called congestive or sub-acute—a term first appropriately used by the late distinguished Dr. Amstrong,—and here peculiarly apposite. I must however, make an observation that still further elucidates this point: it is, that pure cellular or serous inflammation is less frequent in Jersey than that affecting the mucous and fibrous membranes. The bearing of this remark upon the present subject will be at once understood by the scientific reader. However, it must be confessed that the cause of this singularity is to be in part explained upon the well-known pathological principle "that the severity of acute inflammation is proportional to the constitutional vigour of the sick:" and I believe that, both among the natives and residents of Jersey, we should look in vain for the hale and robust bodily stamina that distinguish the rural population of England; or her lusty yeoman.

But as, in the ordinations of Providence, every evil is counterbalanced by its opposing good, so here, that less vigourous enjoyment of rude and boisterous health, is perhaps more than compen-

sated to the Jerseyman, by his comparative immunity from the sanguine diathesis that lays the foundation of inflammatory diseases in their most acute and painful forms; and that leads so often elsewhere to permanent lessons in the moving powers by attacks of paralysis; or to the sudden extinction of life by fits of apoplexy.*

On the subject of vesaniæ or mental diseases it is difficult to arrive at very accurate comparative results. I believe however that here again the advantage is greatly in favour of Jersey. In the year 1823 I visited the great asylum for the pauper lunatics of the West Riding of the county of York; and comparing the number of inmates (in proportion to the populations) with the lunatics among the corresponding class of persons in Jersey (as far as that number can be ascertained in a country devoid of all public registration of

* It must here be observed that I allude chiefly to paraplegia and hemiplegia as sequels of apoplexy. Among the subordinate classes in this island we meet with no inconsiderable number of persons partially paralytic. Their disease however is for the most part capable of being traced to some part of the vertebral canal rather than to the brain; and it is most frequently the result of one or both the causes mentioned in the preceding part.

disease) I have good ground for asserting that the difference in favour of Jersey is in the proportion of not less than five to two.

For this many causes contribute. The uniform and unbroken tranquillity in the life of the Jerseyman,—guarded by the laws, the privileges, and the position of his country, as well against the sudden surprises of fortune, as against the depressing influence of her frowns,* such a life, by affording little room for hope, and as little still for despair, limits within their proper sphere, many of the fiercer passions of our nature, which, under gratification, not less than under disappointment, are most dangerous to our tranquillity. The lot of the Jerseyman has been cast in the middle sphere of life; and he is comparatively

* What Dr. Johnson said of the learning of Scotland is equally applicable to the wealth of Jersey: "Every man has a little, and no man much"; at least in the sense in which the latter of these terms is understood in England. This must always be the case in a country where the law, interfering with the caprices of individuals, divides the property of deceased persons according to a certain ratio of distribution. For the offspring and widow know pretty nearly, beforehand, what they have to expect; and hence, avoid the evils of disappointment: while property, in the progress of years, undergoes something approaching to a fair division.

removed from the operation of those causes that induce pride, ambition, and vanity,—those followers in the train of wealth;—or despair, that seldom fails to wait upon the loss of it.

In the softer passions too, a less perfect state of refinement proves to the Jerseyman a protection against the inroads of those tumultuous and ungovernable emotions that have their more powerful sway in a country where the graces, the fine arts, and the lighter sciences, have been all made to bear upon the developement of the human form and character, in shedding over it the last degree of polish and refinement.

But if the Jerseyman is both by education and nature, less acutely susceptible, he is hence better able to bear up under the reverses of unpropitious fortune; while again, should the fickle goddess shower down upon him her sudden favours, these can be perfectly appreciated only by him who, brought up from infancy amidst the more elegant refinements of life, has been long accustomed to look upon the gratification of the senses as subordinate objects, in comparison with those more sumptuous intellectual pleasures which

unbounded wealth can alone open out; or of which her munificence alone can afford the means of enjoyment.

It has long been a prevalent opinion among pathologists, that mental diseases and scrofula are peculiarly liable to spring up in families as the result of frequent intermarriages. This general position has, I am aware, given rise to the belief, that this island affords proof of the validity of that doctrine. So far, however, as my observation and enquiries extend, I have met with nothing to support such an opinion. The jews and the quakers, whose religious tenets inculcate intermarriages within their own sects, do not afford more instances of mental diseases, than other less scrupulous dogmatists; although I believe that scrofula is very extensively spread among the jews. But scrofula is very general everywhere; and it was asserted by the late distinguished professor Gregory, that only two families in Scotland were altogether free from its taint. These were his own (of course), and that of Sir John Sinclair. But intermarriages of families in Jersey, although of necessity frequent, are I believe not more so.

than in most of the villages and provincial towns in England. The constant influx of British, that become located in these parts, contributes greatly to limit the extent of these intermarriages among all classes; and to neutralize the evils that would otherwise arise; supposing the position with which I set out to be founded in truth.*

Allied, in its pathology, to the two diseases just referred to, is that opprobrium medicinæ "tubercular consumption," of which in the last place I proceed to speak. On its pathology, or treatment, I shall not say one word; since it seems to me useless to insist on these, in speaking of a disease which the greatest authority of our day has declared to be in every instance fatal in its issue. I refer to the opinion of the late Dr. Andrew Duncan, junr., professor in the University of

* I think Mr. Lawrence (in his translation of the Decads of Blumenback which he chooses to call his work on the "Natural History of Man") foretold, that, unless the laws of marriage among crowned heads should soon be abolished, all the monarchs in Europe would, at no distant period, become crazy. There may perhaps be those who think that late political events have proved the prophecy true; on the ground of that maxim, so current among the ancient: "That those whom the Gods intend to ruin they first make mad."

Edinburgh ; a man whose genius may be equalled by others, but whose industry and enthusiasm, whose accurate and profound knowledge of every branch of his profession, and whose extensive acquaintance with every art and science, as well as every department of polite and elegant literature, is equalled by no man alive at this day. It was the settled opinion of that gentleman, after years of observation, that genuine tubercular consumption, is in all instances ultimately fatal : but that the period of its fatality may certainly be postponed.

M. Laënnec indeed has detailed a case at full length ; and which he thinks he cured. The case however was not one of genuine tubercular phthisis, but obviously of that form called apostematous. I believe too, that many cases of the catarrhal phthisis (chronic bronchitis) have recovered. But all this leaves Dr. Duncan's opinion unimpeached. My own experience for nearly twenty years, certainly leaves me with small hopes in this malady from the intervention of art, beyond what is derived from change of climate : and, when we consider that many thousands of deaths

from phthisis occurred under the hands of Laënnec, his very assertion, that he *once* cured a case, tends only to lead our hopes into further despair.

It is to the statistics of this disease, that we must turn for all information that is to be of practical utility in guarding against its insidious approaches. An early removal to another and a more congenial climate, is, I believe, now on all hands admitted to afford the best, and perhaps the only chance of temporary recovery. The ground of this opinion is twofold. In the first place, it is found by observation, that there are whole races of men in certain parts of the world, among whom the dicease is almost, or altogether unknown. From this, it is justly inferred, that as there is no difference in the physical organization of men sufficient to account for this exemption on the part of some of them, so such immunity from phthisis can result only from the soil and climate of their country. In the next place, it is also an established fact, that persons threatened with consumption, have continued to enjoy good health by a removal to certain other countries; while, on returning home, their symptoms have returned

also; and pretty uniformly proved fatal. Some very remarkable instances have come to my knowledge, of consumptive persons removing from Scotland to Barbadoes; and who have in consequence had their symptoms suspended for two or three years. On return home, the disease, in a few months, began again to develope its character, and soon proved fatal. On the other hand, strange to say, it is found that certain negroes from parts of Africa, where consumption is unknown, have perished of that malady, on being transported as slaves to the islands of the West Indies.

The comparative mortality from phthisis in different countries is as follows:

Of deaths from all causes, there die of phthisis, In London, 25 per cent; in France, 23 per cent; at St. Petersburgh, 17 per cent; at New York, 17 per cent. In Switzerland, Austria, Prussia and Belgium the mortality is not materially different from that in England; i.e. it is 25 per cent. which seems to be its maximum mortality. In England it is calculated that 71,358 persons perish annually of phthisis: and I am persuaded

that it is proportionably still more fatal in some of the more northern countries, than in those from which this calculation is made. In Durham, for instance, where for some years I had charge of a public medical institution, the average of patients usually on the list was 46; and of these, from 5 to 8 were always phthisiscal: while the mortality was not less than 5 from phthisis, out of 17 cases of death from all the diseases that fell within the province of the physician. It appears then, First, that the disease is most general in the temperate latitudes; and diminishes in fatality as we advance towards the more northern; since, at St. Petersburgh, one fourth of the whole annual mortality is from pleurisies; and one third from fevers. Secondly, that the disease is almost, or altogether, unknown in many parts of Africa, in Egypt, among the Bedouins of the wilderness, and many other races of men.

The practice of removing consumptive persons to foreign climates is of very ancient date. In England, physicians usually recommend the island of Madeira, or the south of France, or the north of Italy; while in Italy, as far back as the

time of Celsus, Egypt was the rendezvous of the phthisical. The words of that author are:

"Quod si mali plus est, et vera phthisis est, inter initia protinus occurrere necessarium est: neque enim facile is morbus, cum inveteraverit, evincitur. Opus est, si vires patiuntur, longa navigatione, cœli mutatione, sic ut densius quam id est, ex quo discedit æger, petatur: idioque aptissime Alexandriam ex Italia itur." The author continues, "If weakness prevents this (i. e. a voyage to Alexandria or some climate where the air is denser—damper—than at home) it will be proper to go by vessel to a shorter distance; or even to be carried in a couch." It was from this that Dr. Beddoes took the hint of his system of treatment.

If medical statistics are to guide us, Celsus was right; for assuredly it is more rational to choose a place where phthisis is unknown, than one in which it is nearly as fatal as in Great Britain.

At Lisbon, Phthisis is as fatal as in England. The Italian physicians say the same of Italy: and that the phthisical do not live longer than three

or four months. Twenty-five cases out of a hundred deaths were found the average. In Madeira Dr. Gourlay asserts that whole families perish. Sir Alexander Crichton objects to a removal to Dauphiny, the south of France, and the north of Italy; fearing the cold winds from the mountains. Drs. Southy, Johnson, and Sinclair, condemn Malta, Sicily, and the islands of the Mediterranean. M. Portal does the same with regard to south of France; and Sir Charles Morgan as to north of Italy: while Herault (the beau ideal of a fine climate,) and of which Montpelier is capital, is equally condemned as a retreat for the consumptive by Dr. Hawkins. Finally, Dr. Pugh asserts that Nice and Naples are no better than the rest; and Dr. Renton says that, in Madeira, out of 47 cases, 34 died within 3 months; 10 after leaving the island: of the other 3 the result was unknown. Of all the parts of England Penzance is the most eligible. The temperature averages 4 degrees higher than that of London.

A recent traveller in the east thus speaks on this subject. "Alexandria is indeed at all times excessively damp; the atmosphere is saturated

with a saline vapour, which condenses on the walls and furniture of the houses in small crystals of nitre muriate of soda, and muriate of ammonia; the soil is everywhere coated with these saline particles; and although it is quite impossible to keep any articles made of iron, free from rust, yet the constant breathing of this saline atmosphere does not appear to be prejudicial to health; diseases of the lungs are unknown. I have not seen one case of pulmonary consumption among the arabs."

Now we cannot but be struck with the resemblance between this account of the climate of Alexandria and that of Jersey, as seen in many of those particulars detailed in the preceding pages. In temperature, indeed, the difference is marked; but it may be doubted whether the British constitution can well sustain without injury (especially among delicate and susceptible invalids) a higher degree than that of Jersey, without being liable to some or other of those maladies so fatal in Egypt and the more southern latitudes: while it is of the utmost moment, that the sick should not be transported to parts where they are

removed beyond the reach of all those English comforts, and conveniences, that are no longer found among a semi-barbarous, or scarcely even among a foreign people.

The cause of the dampness of Alexandria is attributed to the prevalence of winds from the Meditterranean sea driving on the clouds for months towards the mountains of the Thebäid. These fall in the autumn, and occasion the overflow of the Nile, and the consequent dampness, by evaporation, of the hot air. In Jersey, the winds are equally prevalent from across the Atlantic Ocean; and they are equally laden with moisture and with saline particles; while the climate is sufficiently warm, during the prevalence of those winds that blow from the gulph stream and heated currents of the Atlantic, to cause constant evaporation from the bare rocks and sands at low tide (as explained above,) and to keep the atmosphere in a state of almost continual dampness. Since then it is to the constant inhalation of a damp and saline atmosphere that the freedom of the Egyptians from consumption is attributed, might not the same cause be expected

to produce the same result in Jersey? and might we not infer, a priori, that Jersey (at least as compared with England) would exhibit a comparative immunity from phthisis? And such in truth I believe to be the case in a marked degree,—in a degree indeed beyond what I dare at this moment undertake positively to mention: for, from the circumstance of there being no public registration of disease, any statement on the subject can only be at present founded on individual experience. But without speaking positively to the fact, I have strong ground for believing, that the proportion of cases of genuine consumption here, as compared with most of the English counties, is not one half, or even a third; and that of these, by far the majority are found among the British, who have come to the island with a strong hereditary tendency to phthisis; or with the actual developement of some of its pathognomonic symptoms.

I shall only say further, that I believe the climate of Jersey to be the most suitable, for those labouring under pulmonic diseases, of any in Europe: while for those with hæpatic derangements, it is perhaps the least so: for, where so

many learned persons are agreed, no doubt can remain as to the validity of their testimony respecting the ineligibility of most or all of those places in the Continent to which consumptive persons have been long recommended to resort. I believe Jersey to be preferable to any of them; since (besides the other causes abovementioned), I know of no place where the same equality of temperature is preserved throughout the whole year. It is sufficiently cool to prevent that exhaustion to which invalids are subject in more southern countries; while the average warmth may be fairly stated at from 4 to 6 degrees beyond that of London. The words of the poet are here something more than a mere poetical flight.

Hic ver perpetuum, atque alienis mensibus æstas.

Before dismissing the subject of disease, I will occupy a page or two promiscuously, in brief allusions to a few other maladies.

Diseases of the skin are very frequent in Jersey. To the production of these, among the poor, the action of a saline atmosphere, inattention to cleanliness, and the effects of an impoverished diet, equally contribute. Instances of these

affections come daily under observation. Among the more frequent are those of the kinds called impetiginous, porriginous, and pruriginous. I was lately consulted, by a middle-aged gentleman, in a case of prurigo, or itching, in which the sensation was so intolerable as to make life a burthen. Night or day, there was no remission; and such was the urgency of the symptoms, that they could only be allayed by fomenting the part affected with lotions of pure brandy. The disease had continued for years, despite of all the efforts of the faculty to relieve it. Scabies, or the disease familiarly known as the itch, is also common, and sometimes inveterate. Sycosis, and even lupus, are occasionally seen; and some of the diseases, peculiarly incident to women, seem to prevail here extensively. The climate is relaxing; and such cases recover slowly,—and only after a long and tedious convalescence. Erysipelas is frequent, affecting chiefly the head: and it occasionally proves fatal, by metastasis to the brain. I have also seen one case of diffuse cellular inflammation.

Among children, diseases seem less inflamma-

tory in their type: and are less pointed towards the pulmonary organs than in England: and, upon the whole, hydrocephalus, or water in the brain, although far from rare, is still, less general in these parts.

It was formerly an opinion currrent among physicians, that urinary calculi prevailed much more in the cider counties (as Hereford and Devonshire) than in other parts of England: and that such beverage was consequently favourable to the generation of those concretions. If that opinion had not been already exploded, Jersey would have controverted it. The universal liquor among the islanders is cider: and yet lithonomy has been performed only once by an able army surgeon, who has practised his profession extensively in Jersey for the last thirty years. Nor has that gentleman heard of the operation having been performed by any other surgeon. I think it however not unlikely, that other instances of calculus, demanding the skill of the surgeon, may have occurred during that period: but that the great London operators may have been resorted to, as being more conversant, by daily

practice, in the use of the knife: and especially as, both in the medical and surgical diseases of these islands, the faculty of London have long come in for no inconsiderable share of practice; and particularly of late years, since the communication by water has been facilitated and extended.

SECTION IV.

I enter, in the last place, upon what some may consider a work of supererogation. I propose, very briefly, and as delicately as my feelings will permit, to speak of the medical condition of the island, as regards the resources that are open to the poor,—a branch of my subject which I could not conscientiously omit; since,—although perhaps little interesting to the English reader,—I may reasonably entertain a hope, that the hints I throw out, may not be without their effect upon the authorities of this island. In the first place, I declare it as my belief, that it is from no want either of humanity or of liberality, but from ignorance of the state of the world beyond its own confined limits, that Jersey exhibits the singular phenomenon (for such only can I call it), I say the singular phenomenon, of a town, comprising

a population of seventeen thousand souls, without one foundation dedicated to the relief of the sick. But let me just—There is a building called a hospital,—a Gallic term used instead of the more appropriate English epithet of poor-house. Thither the destitute from age and want are sent, not for medical relief, but as an asylum for life. This charity also rears up foundlings to adult age: and it embraces besides, another class of the wretched, to whom I need not more particularly allude.

There is also, I believe, as stated, in another part of this work, some institution of a philanthropic nature, whose medical functions are not yet quite suspended. But if the philanthropic stranger requests his guide to conduct him to the infirmary, or to the dispensary, or to the house of recovery, or to any other purely medical and surgical establishment, (by whatever name designated) whither the respectable poor may be sent for medical relief, or from which they may procure medicines free of expense, or whither (without the ignominy of being considered parish paupers) the moral and industrious classes of the poor may be carried,

when labouring under fevers or epidemics or other maladies requiring the prompt and skilful attention of the physician—I say if the stranger asks for these he asks in vain: the capital of Jersey boasts of no such refinements.

It is in vain to tell me that the present poor-house fulfils all or any of these objects. The whole island is indeed assessed for its maintenance: but it is notorious that the respectable poor, in the rural districts, would perish rather than enter within its portals. It is equally notorious, that, from another cause, respectable females can never be made to approach its threshold; or if they should, such is the force and influence of bad example, that in all human probability the cure of their diseases would be at the expense of their morals. This is from no fault on the part of the superintendants, or of the committee of management, who, I verily believe, perform their duty conscienciously. It arises from a radical error in the first principles and organization of the establishment, which is deficient in all discrimination and arrangement of the inmates. But, under no modifications, can

it ever be made to fulfil the medical and surgical requirements demanded by the increasing population of this town and island. It is a poor-house, and nothing but a poor-house! a receptacle for the destitute from age and wretchedness; and, if these fall sick, it of course provides them with the medical aid required by their condition. But what is to become of the vast body of sick poor! who are too proud, or too virtuous to enter an institution where they would be associated with that proscribed class, which, everywhere else in the world, is kept apart by itself, and is thus prevented from spreading around it a moral as well as a physical contamination? You may reform or remodel this establishment as you please,—it will never be made to meet the increasing medical demands of this people. Other establishments are imperatively required by the rising wealth and importance of this island; but first, and above all, a charity that will comprehend the distribution (gratis) of medicines to all who may apply for them; and of medical attendance upon the sick poor at their own houses. This is an object that can never be comprehended

as a mere collateral branch of any other institution. It is of itself a vast and mighty demand; and one that will absorb all the powers and energies of a great charity established on its own exclusive basis. In providing for the great bulk of virtuous and industrious poor, the means of restoration to those labours to which their families trust for a scanty and precarious maintenance, we enter upon tangible ground; where vague hypothesis, speculative contentemplations, and the wandering fancies of dogmatists, find no room for the exercise of their sophistries. Human and palpable infirmity is the theme; and the universal sympathy of mankind is the engine. A bodily evil calls for our aid, and body assistance only can relieve it. We must open our hearts to charity; not by the consolation of naked words, but by the more substantial relief of a medical institution, founded with a direct object, and conducted upon such principles, as the experience of later times has found to be most in accordance with the efficiency of its operation, and the extension of its utility, among the sick poor. The present hospital is an incongruous

medley. It attempts too many objects to accomplish any. It is at once a general hospital and a poor-house; a foundling hospital and an almshouse; a lying-in hospital and an infirmary; a lock hospital and a lazaretto; a house of recovery, and a mad-house. And all this array under the superintendence of two individuals. The medical wants of forty thousand persons are not thus to be provided for. The independent poor can never be prevailed on to enter the threshold of a charity, which is associated with all the ideas of parish relief: and it is in the last degree impolitic to abase and humiliate the feelings of the subordinate classes of society, by depriving them of that self-respect which inclines them to regard their own independent, though humble sphere, with sentiments of honorable pride and satisfaction. Charity cannot be administered with too delicate a hand, if it would preserve the virtue and independence of him whom it relieves. It should not appear even as a gift: nor is it such: our wealth is not our own; it is a trust; and we are accountable to God for its just administration. The poor have a right on all natural as well as reli-

gious principles, to participate with us; and to be adequately provided for, in sickness and in health. The fruits of the earth are scattered over its surface by an all-bountiful Creator for the use and enjoyment of all. Charity therefore is not a virtue: it is a mere duty: its possession is no honour; although its absence is a crime.

For the poor of Jersey, science too has advanced in vain. The poor have increased; and sickness has increase in proportion: but the means of relief have followed at an unequal pace. Charities indeed abound; but Jersey has committed a great philosophical error: it has proclaimed to the world that there are but two evils under the sun,—hunger and vice. It is guilty of the moral solecism, of forgetting disease that leads to both the others, and to death,—the greatest evil of all. The blessings of the healing art—with all the bright resources opened out by modern scientific researches—have not yet been extended to the Jersey poor. They have the quack and the nurse; they had the same a hundred years ago. If they look for further aid under their infirmities, it must be to the isolated and

desultory efforts of the private members of our profession. But the medical faculty should be assisted by the rest of the community in its care of the poor. The weight is at present unequally divided. No class of men in the world make the same sacrifices for the poor that are made by the members of the medical and surgical professions. The clergyman is occasionally found at the dying bed: but every disease does not threaten life, or alarm the conscience of the sick; yet the physician is everywhere to be seen exercising gratuitously his avocation; both during the course of mortal and of lingering diseases. I propose to obviate, in part, this serious inconvenience; not by remuneration (we should all of us scorn it from the poor), but by concentrating the diseased to a focus, so as to economize the time, that is, the wealth of the physician. The object that I here propose, is not of equivocal advantage: nor does it rest upon a conformity of opinion among men of different parties. It addresses itself to the common feelings of humanity. It begs not the approbation of the judgment;—it demands, it enforces it. I repeat then, that a loud and urgent

call is made upon the wise, the affluent, and the good, to unite together and conspire in extending, far beyond their present scanty bounds, the operation and resources of medical aid to the poor of this island. A new institution must be made to rise up,—suited to the wants and knowledge of the times. Everywhere else improvement is visible. Legislators are beginning to contemplate a more just adaptation of laws to the social and political condition of man. The church is diligently at work, by its various disciples, spreading through the world the influence of a more humane philosophy than that which prevailed in ages long gone by. The world is in motion, reforming its abuses, widening the sphere of its social enjoyments, and ameliorating the moral condition of mankind; by an extension of the arts, a promulgation of the sciences, and an application of all the physical properties of matter, and the intellectual energies of man, towards the supplying of his natural wants; and the lawful gratification of those more refined luxuries, that spring up in society as it advances towards the perfection of all its civil, its political; its moral, and its reli-

gious institutions. Shall it then be said, that while everywhere else, society is at work perfecting her institutions, the barometer, that measures the heights and depths of the physical ills, is doomed, in this island, to remain for ever fixed and motionless?

Nova sunt semper. Nam quod fuit ante, relictum est;
Fitque quod haud fuerat: momentaque cuncta novantur.

Clarence Terrace, Jersey, 1834. M. S.

[NOTE ON CONSUMPTION.]

On a subject so deeply interesting as this; and in which the results of my observation are as remarkable in themselves as they were unanticipated by me, I should not have felt warranted in trusting to my own experience only. I have therefore availed myself, on this matter of statistical enquiry, of the information which I could collect from other sources: and among these the following communication from a gentleman of great accuracy of observation, and upon whose memory, in the absence of more authentic documents, considerable reliance may be placed, will be seen to bear out the statement made in a foregoing page.

Le recteur de ——— présente ses complimens à Monsieur le Docteur ———, et lui annonce

qu'il a parcouru le régistre des enterremens pour quatre ans, et y a trouvé, autant qu'il peut se rappeller, les noms de 28 personnes qui sont mortes de la consomption durant ce tems là.

Ce 7 *Mars*, 1834.

Now in the parish alluded to, the average number of deaths is 40 per annum. This would give us in four years, 160 deaths: of which the 28 were from consumption. But when we reflect that this term is applied to all cases of atrophy, tabes, and general wasting away of the body in the latter stages of all diseases (and it is then chiefly that the clergy see the sick) we cannot reckon more than half of the alledged number to have been cases of genuine tubercular phthisis. However, counting them at 20, we have then the proportion of 1 out of 8 deaths,—which is little more than half the number that occurs both in Great Britain, and every other part of Europe.

M. S.

END OF VOL. I.

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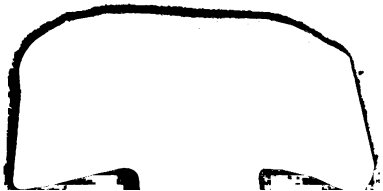
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